

Don't we all have someone to remember?

6th Annual Hike for Hospice a chance to celebrate loved ones we've lost

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – VICTORIA – April 21, 2017 Four years ago, Marion Pape's husband Manfred Pape passed away at Victoria Hospice after a long battle with colorectal cancer. A few weeks before he died, bolstered by the support of their son Andrew, family and friends, Marion participated in her first ever Hike for Hospice.

"Initially, we used the opportunity as a way to relieve our feelings of dread," she says. Since then, the event has become a celebratory annual tradition for her multi-generational family and friends.

"Hike for Hospice is a wonderful way to honour someone who is special to you," says Marion. "And doesn't everyone in the world have someone to remember? "For us, Hike has become more important than Manfred's birthday or the day he died."

"We're a family that does a lot together and hiking is a joy.

Hike for Hospice gave us a chance to cheer Manfred on during his final journey – he connected with the hikers via tablet from his hospice bed, being too weak to join us on the road. The beautiful side-effect was that it actually brought joy and laughter to Manfred. It raised his spirits to see how many people loved him and came to Hike in his honour."

Victoria Hospice depends on community support for almost half of its operating costs, making events like Hike for Hospice truly meaningful. The goal for this year's Hike for Hospice is to raise \$40,000 for end-of-life care. "The fact that Hike for Hospice also raises funds for such a vital service in our community makes the time spent hiking with loved ones that much more special," says Marion.

"What I've come to realize is the minute you step up and reach out to help others in their grief, it feels so much better. Hike for Hospice really is a chance to step up and celebrate the loved ones we've lost."



Event details at VictoriaHospice.org or [Hike for Hospice site](#)

- Sunday, May 7th at Fisherman's Wharf Park, Victoria
- Check-in and entertainment (Cookeilidh) starts at 9am; walk begins at 10am
- All welcome! Bring your four-legged friend for your chance to win the "Best Dressed Dog" Award
- Hike is a scenic 3.5km loop from the inner harbour to the ocean and back again
- 100% of proceeds go to Victoria Hospice.

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