

# Gifts in Wills

Gifts in Wills support one in four of our patients each year  
Could you help us to be there for future generations?

Sponsored by



**Dixon Alderton Law**



**myton**  
hospice

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Please let us know



Our  
promise  
to you



We will keep any  
information you  
share with us  
confidential and  
won't pass it on to  
other organisations



[mytonhospice.org](http://mytonhospice.org) |    @MytonHospices



We will use your  
legacy in the  
most efficient and  
effective way  
possible



If you choose to share  
details of your gift, we will  
look forward to saying  
thank you and keeping in  
touch with you



We value all the gifts that  
are left to us. No matter  
what size, your gift will  
make a huge difference  
to people's lives



**For every £1  
donated, 83p goes  
directly to helping  
our patients. The  
rest ensures that we  
can continue in the  
future as a viable  
organisation.**

## Welcome

“ When we look back on our lives we'd all like to feel that we've made a difference and that the things we've achieved along the way won't be forgotten when we are no longer around. We will also want the people and causes closest to our hearts to know how much they have meant to us; one way for us to show this is by the gifts we leave to them in our Will.

What happens to our money and the things that are most precious to us when we're gone shouldn't be left to chance – this is why writing a Will is so important. Of course, making sure our loved ones are provided for will be top of the priority list but if Myton is one of the causes you have cared about in your life time – I would ask that you consider leaving us a gift too.



It may surprise you to learn that one in four of our patients are cared for with money left to us in Wills. You don't have to be wealthy to make a difference to peoples lives; large or small, a gift from you can help our patients and their families at a time when they need us the most.

Please take the time to read the information in this booklet – if you need any further help or advice please don't hesitate to contact me, or a member of the team.

”

**Ruth Freeman**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Without gifts in Wills we couldn't care for 1 in 4 patients**

# *Helen's Story*

**Lead Nurse, Helen Siddaway, tells us how her personal experiences of Myton led her to work for us and remember Myton in her Will.**

My involvement with Myton began in May 1988. My husband Mark, was admitted to Warwick Myton Hospice for end of life care. He was 42 and worked as a dental surgeon. He was diagnosed with a melanoma in his eye which was not the best thing for a dentist. He had been given the "all clear" six months previously and the consultant gave him a bottle of champagne to celebrate. The treatment had been gruelling and he was in Liverpool for most of his treatment, which was tough for the children who were aged 9, 10 and 13. We had a short reprieve and life became a bit more normal. A few months later on Good Friday he became unwell and was blue lighted to University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) and after multiple metastases were diagnosed he was transferred to Warwick Myton Hospice.

This was a great shock and was a terrifying situation for me. Although a Registered Nurse, my training and knowledge was of no benefit and I felt just as vulnerable and out of control as any other relative. The only thing I knew about Myton was it was where Mark was being sent to die. His oncologist at UHCW knew Mark as they used to play cricket together and I had to tell myself that if Myton wasn't a good place then the consultant wouldn't be pushing us that way.

The Myton experience was the best and far exceeded all my expectations. The staff were so friendly, nothing was too much trouble, the care was of a really high standard and my husband was at the centre of everything. Even the chef came to see him every day to discuss what he would like to eat. The Myton care was extended to me and the girls. We were fed and watered and when the time was appropriate we were given accommodation. We felt really cared for. The doctors came and talked so freely explaining everything in a gentle way about what was happening. One of the medical staff even went into the gardens to play ball with the children! Mark lost his battle after two and a half weeks.

I remember a big banner in reception telling everyone that Myton was a charity and what the running costs were per day and per week. That had a big impact on me as the care we had all received was so good. The hospital care was good too, but Myton was in a different league. Mark was only 42

and he was well known in Rugby. His funeral filled the church and was on TV relay into other rooms and people were in the car park which was full too.



Helen and Mark

It was a no brainer where the funeral donations were going! At this time, I also made the decision to leave a gift for Myton in my Will too. If that banner hadn't been up I would have been totally unaware of the amount Myton needed to raise to be able to provide the medical expertise and care needed for end of life care.



Helen at Myton

That is not the end of the story. I was so touched and inspired by the Myton care, and I knew that care of the dying could be so much better in the hospitals if they had the resources. I worked nights at our local hospital and while I worked there I tried my best to change attitudes and raise standards of care for palliative patients and their relatives. It was an uphill battle as the care was not always consistent and was dependent on the medical and nursing staff on duty. I had the opportunity to come to work for Myton at Home in 2011 and although the work is challenging, working with a team who are committed to the best care was so rewarding. I could end each shift knowing we had made a difference to the families we were involved with.

I now have the privilege of leading Rugby Myton Day Unit as well as Myton at Home, and feel so blessed to work with teams who are so compassionate and caring about the patients we see. There was a long time when I didn't think life would be good again. I am so thankful Myton came into my life in 1998. At that point the pebble was thrown into the lake and the ripple effect goes on and on.

# Make a difference to someone's life

Since The Myton Hospices first opened back in 1982, we have cared for thousands of terminally ill people, their families and their friends. With three hospices; in Coventry, Rugby and Warwick and a growing Myton at Home service in Warwick, Leamington and Rugby, these form an important part of the community in Coventry and Warwickshire.

Often holding someone's hand or listening to their stories can make

the biggest difference of all.

We're here for families and loved ones too, ensuring there is always support and advice available as well as a cup of tea and a hug when it's needed.

We rely on voluntary contributions to fund our work and even a small gift in your Will could make a difference to someone's life. We think that's a fantastic legacy to leave and a wonderful thing to do.

We hope you think so too.





# How you could help...



**£1,110**

is the cost of running our Rugby Day Unit for one day



**£2,000**

would buy a patient specific recliner chair to enable patients to spend time out of bed



**£27,600**

will fund a children's counsellor for one year



**£35,000**

will fund recruitment, training and salary of a nurse for one year



**£178,000**

Warwick

is the running cost of our Inpatient Unit at Warwick Myton Hospice for one month



**£220,000**

is the running cost of our Myton at Home service for one year

# *Rob 's Story*

**Rob Howard was given the gift of time when he was admitted to Warwick Myton Hospice.**

Time to see his son, Tom, graduate; time to visit his sister who was undergoing treatment for breast cancer; time to enjoy ice cream and fish and chips by the seaside with his family; and time to see his pupils and colleagues at King Henry VIII School where he was a teacher.

Rob was diagnosed with a Grade 4 brain tumour, and after two surgeries he was no longer able to walk or talk. He spent over a month in hospital recovering.

A bed on Warwick Myton Hospice Inpatient Unit became available for Rob and the difference in him once he was at Myton was huge; his wife Heather remembers a depression being lifted from him. His wicked sense of humour, which disappeared while in hospital, had returned, he was able to communicate again and was able to walk short distances thanks to his medication being balanced and the time the nurses, doctors, and therapy teams at Myton dedicated to him.

Rob was discharged and spent 5 weeks surrounded by friends and family. He was also able to attend weekly day therapy sessions at Myton during those five weeks and Heather could see a difference in him again - he had been stimulated by the company he was in. It also meant time out for both of them, which gave Heather a much-needed boost to be able to care for him at home.

A couple of months later Rob was readmitted to the Inpatient Unit for the final time.

Rob and his granddaughter



“

*Heather said:*

If Rob hadn't come to Myton there is no chance he would have been able to see our son graduate. He was also able to award a prize at the Sixth Form award day at King Henry VIII School. I really feel Myton gave him the gift of time to be able to do those things. Rob had quality of life at his end of life – I couldn't have wished for anything better for him. I consider Rob so lucky to be able to have experienced Myton. I cannot say a big enough thank you to Myton - they gave Rob time and care with love.

”

**By leaving Myton a gift in your Will you can help ensure we will be here for more people like Rob and his family in the future.**

# FAQs

## Why should I make a Will?

Making a Will ensures that your wishes are followed and gives you peace of mind that the people and causes that matter to you will benefit when you die. Making a Will is the only way to ensure that your wishes are carried out.

A Will makes it easier for the people appointed to deal with your estate because they can be sure that they are carrying out your wishes. If you don't make a Will, the whole process can be very stressful and time-consuming.

A Will protects the rights of your partner if you are not married or in a civil partnership, as the same rights do not apply as to married couples. By making a Will, you will ensure that your partner is provided for.

In some circumstances, if you do not make a Will the whole of your estate could end up going to the Crown or government. It is vital that in order to keep control of who benefits from your estate when you die, that you write a Will.

## How do I make a Will?

We strongly recommend using a solicitor, professional advice is often less expensive than you might think and will ensure that your Will is both valid and accurately reflects your wishes. You can have peace of mind when your Will is

professionally drawn up.

The Myton Hospices cannot recommend a solicitor to you but if you would like us to help you find solicitors in your area who offer a Will writing service, please feel free to contact us.

## Make A Will Week

We run an annual 'Make a Will Week', when you can visit a participating firm of solicitors and make a Will in return for a donation to The Myton Hospices. To find out more visit [mytonhospice.org/will](http://mytonhospice.org/will)

## How do I change my Will?

It is important to review your Will every 2 to 3 years and at least every 5 years. We all have major changes in life, for example marriage automatically revokes

a Will. If you only want to make minor changes then you can make those changes by preparing a codicil.

## Can I save on tax by leaving a gift to charity?

Yes. By leaving a gift to The Myton Hospices you could reduce your inheritance tax bill because the value of your gift is not taken into account when inheritance tax is calculated.

You could even avoid paying inheritance tax on your estate completely by pledging to give everything over and above

the inheritance tax threshold to charity. Also, if you include a gift to charity of at least 10% of your net estate, this reduces the rate at which inheritance tax is payable from 40% to 36%.

When you speak to your solicitors they can advise you further on this. For more information visit [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)



# How can I leave a gift in my Will?

1

You can leave a **residuary gift** which is the remainder of your estate after all other gifts and debts have been paid. This ensures that your family and loved ones are looked after first and what is left over can then be donated.

2

You can leave a **pecuniary gift**, which is a cash lump sum. You might like to ask your solicitor to index-link any cash gift to ensure its relative value stays the same over time.

3

You can leave a **specific gift** such as personal possessions (a piece of jewellery or furniture for example), land, buildings or specified items such as shares or the contents of a bank account.

We receive all kinds of gifts in people's Wills, and we're grateful for all types of support. Speak to your solicitor if you're interested in leaving an alternative type of gift.

If you do decide to leave a gift to Myton you will need our details:

The Myton Hospices  
Myton Lane  
Warwick  
CV34 6PX

Registered Charity No. 516287

*“A well drafted Will is the best way to make sure you look after your family after you’ve gone. By planning ahead you can ensure that your wishes are carried out and the people you choose are able to look after your assets and loved ones. You can also minimise the impact of Inheritance Tax. Including a gift to a charity such as Myton can have benefits for both your estate and the charity concerned.”*

**Dixon Alderton Law Ltd**

# *John's Story*

**John has been a volunteer at Myton since late 2018, after losing his wife to oesophagus cancer. Pam passed away in July 2018 at Warwick Myton Hospice, having spent about a week there.**

"After 10 months of caring for her, of driving the 60-mile round trip daily to University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) for 3-4 months for treatments, visits to other hospitals/blood tests and then penultimately a two-week stint on the cancer ward at Coventry, I was running on "empty" and Pam had explicitly "had enough". The final prognosis of we can't do any more was earth shattering, however obvious, so we looked forward to getting her home.

A number of Macmillan nurses had suggested that we try a short stopover in a hospice, so they could continue treating her symptoms but no, we were of one mind; to get her back to her own bed and rely on visits from the fantastic team of District Nurses who had supported us throughout. Besides we thought hospices are where you go to die and we were resisting that to the end.

As the District Nurses started bringing in drugs, syringe drivers and other just in case equipment, being at home became less reassuring and after further intervention by Macmillan, we got a bed at Warwick Myton.

After the sheer madness of previous weeks and months, it was like arriving at an oasis of calm and security, just knowing that you were in safe hands and in a beautiful setting. My daughter brought her dog and one of my grandsons came to visit. He sat in the garden for an hour one day and painted the famous old tree in the garden.

During the week, I read some of their literature and was staggered to learn just to what extent Myton depends on charity to deliver its services. Like many other people, I thought it was an extension of the NHS who had

Pam



thrown everything they'd got into saving Pam.

Before her condition worsened, I promised Pam I would find a way of repaying Myton for the care and empathy everyone had showed us. Since becoming a volunteer, I have learnt so much more about what Myton does for people around Coventry and Warwickshire, over and above just being a hospice, which is a service they do exceptionally well, so professional, so caring.

### **So how to re-pay Myton?**

Pam and I had Wills in place for many years. Now that she'd gone, I couldn't suddenly change her Will and re-direct her savings to Myton to say thank you. Sure, we raised money for Myton at the funeral, like a lot of folk do. I could have just written a cheque but I did that already in matching what friends and family had given at the funeral. Besides, I had enough going on, sorting Pam's probate, closing and transferring accounts, proving my identity to all sorts of institutions.

The one opportunity I saw to make good on my promise was to change my Will. After all, it needed updating for legislation and tax changes, the value of the house had risen, the ISA's had gone up and my asset profile had changed since retiring 12 years ago. Then, of course, there was the other question of who would benefit from my demise and how and when – my daughter now married, two young grandsons and now no Pam.

With some excellent advice from my solicitor, my Will now contains some great provisions for the long-term security of my family as well as that "promise to pay" Myton when I fall off the perch. I am not in the bracket of people who can afford to give 10% of their assets to charity to reduce their Inheritance Tax bill and Myton won't be transformed by my legacy. But I know it will go some way to saying thank you. And I have kept my promise to Pam!!

# Please let us know...

Leaving a gift in your Will is a highly personal and special decision. It is entirely up to you whether or not you inform us of any gift you have made. However, knowing about your bequest will help us to plan ahead and say thank you. It will also enable us to keep in touch with you about our work, which we would very much like to do.

**This form is confidential to The Myton Hospices and is in no way legally binding. (Please complete as appropriate in BLOCK CAPITALS and delete where necessary)**

- ☐ I intend to remember The Myton Hospices in my Will
- ☐ I have remembered The Myton Hospices in my Will

I plan to leave / have left: **(optional)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a specific sum of money             | <input type="checkbox"/> all of the residue of my estate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a share of the residue of my estate | <input type="checkbox"/> a specific item                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a gift in trust                     | <input type="checkbox"/> other: .....                    |

Title: ..... First Name: ..... Surname: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: ..... Mobile: .....

Email: ..... Date: .....

**We would like to keep in touch with you about our vital work and update you on our news and fundraising activities. Please tell us if you would be happy for us to contact you by:**

- ☐ Email    ☐ Post    ☐ Phone    ☐ SMS    ☐ Opt out of all communications

**Why are you supporting Myton?**

- ☐ In memory    ☐ Thanks for care    ☐ Hospice movement    ☐ Local charity

Other .....

**Your privacy** We promise to do our best to keep your details safe and secure, and will only process your data in accordance with the current Data Protection legislation. We will only communicate with you in the way(s) that you have agreed to. If you change your mind about hearing from us, contact us at any time by emailing our Donor & Supporter Care Team at **DSCT@mytonhospice.org** or calling **01926 358383**. For further details on how your data is stored visit: **www.mytonhospice.org/privacy-policy**

Once completed, please return this form to  
**The Myton Hospices, Donor and Supporter Care Team, Myton Lane,  
Warwick, CV34 6PX**  
**If you would prefer to speak to someone call 01926 358383**



Did you know...

We have hospices in  
**Coventry,  
Rugby &  
Warwick**

and specialist nursing teams that  
care for people in their own homes

We care for people aged

**18 years  
& over**

with a wide range of life  
— limiting illnesses —

We provide all of our services

**FREE  
OF CHARGE**

Less **20%** of  
than **our**  
funding comes from the NHS

**We provide a wide  
range of services  
across Coventry and  
Warwickshire**

Inpatient Units\*

The Living Well Programme

Fatigue and Breathlessness  
Programme

Therapeutic Days

Drop-in Sessions

Myton at Home

Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy

Complementary Therapy

Art Therapy

Hairdressing

Lymphoedema

Counselling

Clinical Psychology

Spiritual & Pastoral Care

**To find out more visit  
[mytonhospice.org/services](http://mytonhospice.org/services)**

\* we are the only provider of inpatient  
care in Coventry and Warwickshire



**myton**  
hospice

Thank you for helping us to care for local people from Coventry and Warwickshire who are living with a terminal illness, and their families, now and in the future.

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“For me, the key question is how we can have a good death – leaving a legacy or making an in-memory gift can be an important part of that process.”

**Myton Supporter**

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**If you have any questions or would like to find out more please contact us on 01926 838834, email [legacy@mytonhospice.org](mailto:legacy@mytonhospice.org) or visit [mytonhospice.org/gift](http://mytonhospice.org/gift)**

[www.mytonhospice.org](http://www.mytonhospice.org)

   **@MytonHospices**

Registered Charity No. 516287



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