



HARRY HYNES
Memorial Hospice

Summer 2026

Hynes Hallmark

Quarterly Agency Newsletter

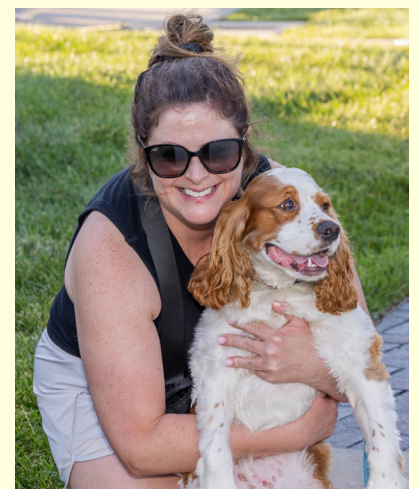
Volume 4.3



The Wright Way; by Scott

Lanterns of Life

The 2nd annual Lanterns of Life event was held on Memorial Day, May 25, at the Memory Garden located in the Collective of East Wichita. The heartfelt gathering welcomed over 200 guests, each releasing a lantern onto the serene ponds in remembrance of a loved one. Every lantern was thoughtfully decorated and personalized, serving as a tribute to lives cherished and never forgotten. At dusk, the lanterns were launched while Dan The HandPan Man played soothing sounds. Guests snacked on desserts from DZ Treats and SnoYo Shaved Ice. Thank you for joining us and supporting our area's only non-profit hospice!



Parsons Office Ribbon Cutting

Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice marked an exciting new chapter with the official ribbon cutting of its new downtown Parsons office, celebrating both growth and a deepened commitment to the community it serves. Having served the Parsons area for more than 30 years, the organization continues to build on a legacy of compassionate care and strong local connections.

The ceremony brought together staff, community leaders, partners, and supporters to commemorate the move into a more central location. Relocating to downtown Parsons places the hospice in a more visible and accessible setting, allowing for increased foot traffic and greater day-to-day connection with the community. This presence helps the team be closer to the individuals and families they serve, strengthening relationships and increasing awareness of the compassionate care they provide.

With its new home in the heart of Parsons, Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice looks forward to continuing its mission while building on its strong partnerships and further enhancing the support it provides to the community.



Volunteer Celebration

National Hospice Volunteer Week, held annually the third week of April, brought out the stars of the show as the volunteers of Harry Hynes were honored for their gift of time. Volunteers in both our southeast Kansas coverage area and Wichita, were celebrated during an evening of dinner, awards and door prizes. Guest speakers included Jerry Kerschen, CEO; Tom Welk, Director of Pastoral Care and Education; and Kristin Walker, Vice President of Clinical Services (SEK). Thank you to the generous donation of Carson-Wall Funeral Homes, Security 1st Title, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Roxy's Downtown, Chik-Fil-A (west), George's Bistro and Music Theater Wichita for helping us give our volunteers the thanks they deserve!





Thank you to all those who have donated in memory or honor of the following:

Donations were made from March 10 to June 1.

This list excludes the Lights of Life dedications. To view the Lights of Life dedications, visit www.hynestmemorial.org/fundraising-events/#lights-of-life

Marina Farha Aboussie	Jeanette Ann Harris	Lila M. Pedersen
Howard E. Atwood	Michelle Hartman	Jayne Pierce
Terry Joe Baima	Frances E. Healy	Terri L. Pressnall
Mary B. Barker	Bonnie L. Heidebrecht	Sally E. Presson
Sam Battles	Ramona D. Hill	William G. Province
Cora Pauline Belcher	Donna Joles	Ella K. Regier
Rebecca S. Bills	Mineko Jones	Robert "Bob" Richardson
Fred L. Brown, Jr.	Geneva Kissinger	Dale Schilling
Henry V. Buresh	Kathryn (Joan) Klapprott	Jean "Jeanie" A. Shields
Mary Campana	Patty Jo (Harmon) Krainz	Jon L. Smith
Cynthia A. Carlson	Gayla Land	Christi Tapia
Phil I. Chenoweth	The Reverend Debra S. "Debi"	Clyde Kermit Taverner
Ricky Allen Coon, Sr.	Lorenz	Willard B. Thompson
Mark A. Crawford	Patricia J. "Pat" Lowry	Mark L. Thompson
Ronald Eugene DeHart	Sheryl Ann Ludlow	Peggy A. Tucker
Glenn R. Dettmann	Sabra J. Ludlum	Geraldine A. "Geri" Ulmer
Joan L. Dickens	Carol S. Ludwig	Margaret Vestal
Daniel Dickgraft	Ruby M. Mansfield	Joseph W. Wachter
Orville Kenneth Doramus	Thomas Owen "TJ" Martin	Milford L. Wencel
Clarence L. Engels	Patricia I. Matlock	Robert B. White
Kimberly R. Epley	Gary Gene McCarty	Daisy Blanche White
Janet L. Filbert	Waneta "Joan" McFarland	Melissa M. Wiens
James H. Forshee	Brenda Sue McGinness	Margaret A. Wilson
Arlen E. Freund	Bobbie Lynn McKinley	
Wayland Friend	Virginia C. McNeely	
Wesley E. Galyon	Paula M. Muller	
Junior "JR" Daniel Ghan	Michael Murray	
Janie M. Gillespie	Muriel I. Nixon	
James T. "Toby" Goatley	Bobbie A. Oehme	
Shirley J. Grosch	Theresa A. Palmer	
Judith Harper	Mary E. Pando	



“At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.”
- Sylvan Kamens & Rabbi Jack Reimer

Grief and Loss Support

Understanding Children and Grief

Death is a real part of a child's life. Even a very young child has seen a dead animal or insect. They may have watched Mufasa fall to his death in the movie *The Lion King* or watched the movie *Frozen* and learned that Anna and Elsa's parent's have died. All children grieve but there are important distinctions between the grief of a child versus the grief of an adult.

Immature cognitive development

Children's immature cognitive development limits their understanding of death. Generally, a child needs to be about ten or eleven before the abstract nature of death can be fully understood. For example, death should not be referred to as a person sleeping because a young child might believe they would wake up in the morning.

Ability to tolerate sadness

Children have a limited ability to tolerate emotional pain. They may express sadness one minute and then the next minute are ready to play. Play is a way to escape the pain of all the confusing feelings they are experiencing. Adults sometimes misinterpret this behavior as not feeling the loss as deeply as they are.

Ability to verbalize feelings

The ability to talk about how they feel is limited and talking about feelings may be avoided.

Grief may be expressed more by changes in behavior. Reactions may include depression, low energy level, anger, fear, disorganization, low self-esteem, hyperactivity, aggression, and regression. Parents and other significant adults can help children learn to identify their feelings. Children need to be given a honest explanation of the death in words they can understand.

Sensitive about being different from other children

The peer group is very important to a school aged child. Children who have experienced the death of a close family member may not want to be seen as being different. Friends may be uncomfortable talking to a peer who is grieving.

The biggest hurdle for adults in talking with children is their own uncomfortableness or uncertainty about death. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross says, “You cannot be a phony-baloney” with children. Children may interpret adult uncomfortableness as meaning that talking and feeling is not okay. They may fill in the gaps in their understanding of what has occurred with their own interpretation.

How children learn to deal with death will impact their ability to deal with loss for the rest of their lives. If you are concerned about your children or grandchildren, ask your grief counselor or other medical professional.

Are You Grieving or Depressed?

Sometimes when you are grieving it may be difficult to determine if you are grieving only, or experiencing depression as well.

John M. Schneider Ph.D. (author of Finding My Way and Transforming Loss) has identified key differences between grief and depression.

You Are Grieving When You are Experiencing the following:

- Sometimes find yourself obsessed with thinking about the person who died, but at other times are able to think of other things
- Experience vivid, clear dreams, which can be very comforting
- May have gained or lost weight
- Exercise often or not at all
- Find getting to sleep difficult
- Feel tired frequently
- Have a connection to something greater than yourself
- Are able to have pleasurable experiences as long as it isn't something that only came from the person who died
- Like to have close friends or someone who will listen to your story
- Miss being loved or the ability to love others

You may be Depressed When:

- Are often obsessed with yourself and how the death is unfair or see it as a punishment
- Experience flashbacks, nightmares, or the same disturbing dreams over and over
- Have had extreme weight change
- Experience difficulty waking up and then awoken with disturbing dreams
- Find yourself always restless or sleepy
- Are unable to find meaning and have an ongoing focus on "why me" and the unfairness of the death
- Tend to discard previously held beliefs
- Cry all the time or not at all or are angry all the time or not at all
- Rarely feel good
- Can't stand being with people or can't be without them
- Feel abandoned and unloved when alone
- Have had an extreme reaction to "eat, drink and be merry" or have experienced no pleasure at all
- Feel unloved and incapable of loving
- Distance yourself from others

If you have any questions or concerns about what you are experiencing, please contact your grief counselor or other medical professional.



Hynes Hallmark



313 S Market
Wichita KS 67202

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wichita, Kan.
Permit No. 162

Every family's journey is personal.



Please share your story with us!

Scan the QR Code to share your experience to help others facing similar decisions.