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Hospice of Tift Area's "Legacy Bear" project helps to preserve memories



(Sept. 14, 2023, Tifton, Ga.) — Hospice of Tift Area, a service of Southwell, has introduced a new initiative which offers a way for patients to leave behind a lasting connection to their loved ones. Through the “Legacy Bear” project, hospice patients are provided the opportunity to record a personal voice message onto a special Build-a-Bear.

This endeavor has been championed by Crystal Howell, LCSW, one of Hospice of Tift Area’s social workers.

“The bear, infused with the patient's heartfelt sentiments, becomes a comforting and personalized memento,” Howell said. “It provides an avenue for patients to communicate their love, support and wisdom to family members and friends, ensuring that the patient's presence and words remain a treasured part of their family's life journey. It's a legacy of love that continues to live on after the patient has passed away.”

Howell said the project is a testament to the power of compassion and the human spirit.

“It is a reminder that even in the face of adversity, we can find beautiful and heartwarming ways to ensure that a patient's presence and love endures,” she said.

To learn more about Hospice of Tift Area, visit www.mysouthwell.com/hospice or call 229-353-6330.

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About Hospice of Tift Area

A service of Southwell, Hospice of Tift Area provides a special kind of caring for people with a limited life expectancy. Comfort care is offered for the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of hospice patients, with the focus being on improving the quality of life, not on extending life. The care provided takes place in the patient's home whenever possible and is available to patients who have a wide range of diagnoses. To learn more about Hospice of Tift Area, visit www.mysouthwell.com/hospice or call 229-353-6330. Hospice of Tift Area is located in Tifton at 618 North Central Avenue.

About Southwell

Southwell is a leading integrated healthcare system dedicated to delivering quality and compassionate care in South Georgia. Southwell includes Tift Regional Medical Center, Southwell Medical, Southwell Health and Rehabilitation, and more than thirty-five (35) outpatient diagnostic and treatment facilities, physician clinics, and endoscopy procedure centers. Please visit www.MySouthwell.com for more information.

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