

# The Meadian



*A newsletter published periodically for families, friends and residents of St. Anne's Mead*

MAY 10, 2015

## MOTHER'S DAY

It's been said before, in many ways, that the bond between mother and son is like none other. So, on this Mother's Day, we honor the mother-son relationship by sharing with you the personal sentiments of four loving sons.



*Jim and Kathleen Cassidy*

### **Jim and Kathleen Cassidy**

"I've always enjoyed her good humor. No matter her medical condition, she always is in a good mood. She just keeps going."



*Curt and Chris Creswell*

### **Curt and Chris Creswell**

Mom and Dad both made it a point to trust in the Lord. She became a Sunday School teacher and led Bible Study. Her commitment to the church provided me with a good moral compass.





*Ruth and Paul Brasmer*

### **Paul and Ruth Brasmer**

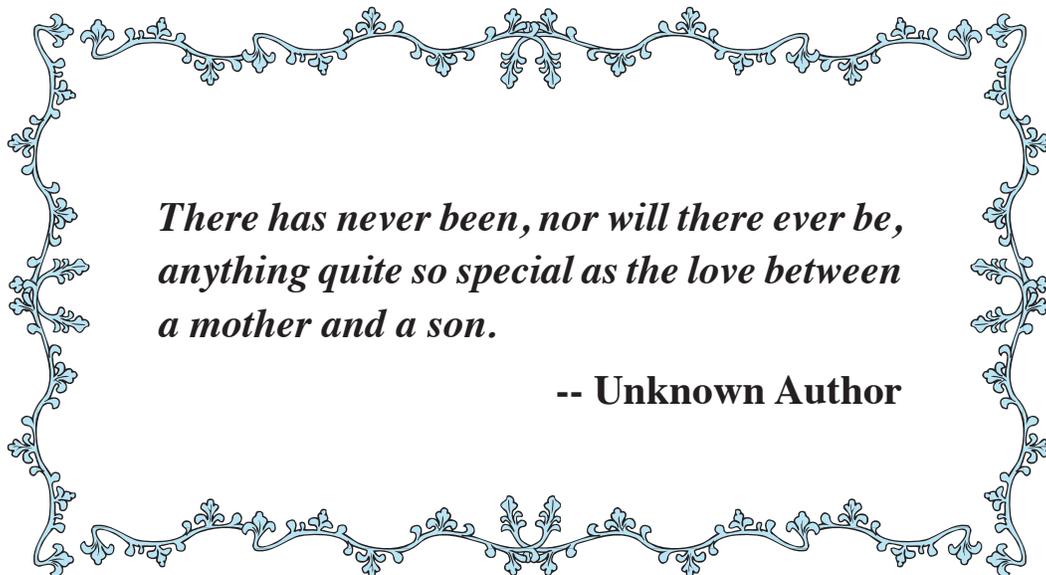
“She’s loving and kind and has always shown great care and compassion. Her faith is good and she looks for the good in all people. She taught and supported me, and showed me that one must stand up for what is right, no matter the cost. And, her chocolate chip cookies are the greatest!”



*Mary and Jon Muresan*

### **Jon and Mary Muresan**

Mother never gives up. She is tenacious. She is small and mighty at 93, and is very cognizant of current events.



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## Maureen Penglase

### *She's Retiring, But She's Not Giving Up Nursing*



What Maureen Penglase remembers most after 40 years of nursing is the clanging of metal bedpans dropping to the floor. “I was never graceful,” says the retiring Charge Nurse at St. Anne’s Mead. “I’m so glad they’re made of plastic now.”

Despite her comment, Maureen leaves her post of 10 years at the end of May with plenty of grace.

What sets Maureen apart? “Her dedication and extensive knowledge of every person under her care,” says Marilyn Thomas, a co-worker of 10 years. “Maureen is a hard worker who never stops moving, from the moment she clocks in until the moment she leaves. She cares deeply for all the residents and their families. She’s the best!”

The Clinton Township resident will spend her retirement looking after her husband Steve, a devotion to him and his condition that will give both of them much pleasure.

“We met on the Internet 11 years ago and were married two years later,” says Maureen. The transition to home life not only saves her a long travel time, it gives her the opportunity to provide the same high level of care that she has been extending to residents of the Extended Care Unit, and “to better enjoy his great humor,” she says.

“We really do give the best, loving care here. It’s not just words. It’s what I’ve enjoyed the most, being able to help residents be their happiest during their end-of-life stay.”

Back in the late 1960’s, Maureen chose nursing over the Peace Corps largely to respect the wishes of her parents. “I did co-op in high school, then worked as an aid which encouraged me to enter nursing school.”

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Over the past four decades Maureen has seen many changes and a huge improvement in how health care is delivered, from medicine and vaccinations to improved technology and patient respect.

Not at all tolerant of disorder, the first thing she does when coming on shift is to straighten up paperwork and tidy her desk. “That’s just me,” she says. That need for order is in her thoughts as she helps her replacement, Candy Prater, settle in. “I just want to make her introduction here as neat and easy as possible. She’s just like me. She doesn’t want to have any disorder.”

Says Candy, “I hope she leaves me her telephone number.”

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *Not to worry, Candy. All joking aside, we think Maureen will leave her job with a lot of grace and in perfect order.*

## Worth Repeating

### *Here’s what they’re saying about St. Anne’s Mead*

*Maureen Penglase is a one of a kind person! She has energy beyond any one I know. Maureen is thorough with her care and thoroughly outstanding as our nurse. She has patience beyond belief and a soft, kind and gentle touch for everyone she meets. Thank you from the bottom of my family’s heart! I know that I am also speaking for all the rest of the families whose loved ones have been privileged to be cared for Maureen. May you enjoy your retirement in the best of health!*

-- Sharon Levine, daughter of Joy Landau

*Be sure to check our Facebook page for photos, videos and comments.*

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### Our Mission

St. Anne's Mead mission is to provide compassionate and professional health care and supportive services to seniors in a safe, secure, and loving home.

In keeping with our faith-based traditions, we endeavor to serve the unique needs of individuals and their families while preserving dignity and enriching lives.

