

# Wise Investments Benefit Families at McLeod Hospice House

*How Your Appreciated Stocks Can Be Used for Good*



Tim Cunningham is always deliberate with financial decisions.

When the longtime financial advisor and Chairman of the McLeod Health Foundation Board learned that McLeod would be building the first inpatient hospice facility in the region, he decided to make a tax-wise gift of stock shares that had grown in value over the years.

Tim knew he wanted to make a significant gift because of an early family experience. At the tender age of 23, Tim experienced first-hand the benefits of hospice care when his brother passed away from cancer.

It would not be long before he would learn just how big an impact his gift had on others.

“One day, I was at my daughter’s school,” Tim recalled. “Someone deliberately made

their way to me and said, ‘My mother was a patient at the McLeod Hospice House. She spent her remaining hours with us in comfort in the room you named. This special facility meant so much to my family and I wanted to thank you.’”

Her story made Tim realize how his gift had already touched others, even those he has never met. The opportunity to “name a room” through a financial contribution made a powerful impact.

Several years later, Tim’s mother, Billie, became ill. A longtime McLeod volunteer, she had given so much of herself to others. Billie’s final days, too, would be dignified by the compassionate care she received at the McLeod Hospice House.

When Tim arrived to be with her, he was delighted that she had been placed in the room he named. Tim knew his mother would have wanted to be in “his” room, holding his hand during her final journey.

“Mom was always so proud of my support of the Hospice House,” Tim said. It was a comfort to him that this would be a special tribute to her, where she spent her last moments with her son at her side, in a room that would honor her legacy of love and service.