

LEADING  
EDGE CARE  
CLOSE TO  
HOME IS OUR  
LEGACY—  
**MAKE IT  
YOURS**



**SOUTHLAKE**  
FOUNDATION

**A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO SOUTHLAKE REGIONAL HEALTH CENTRE IS A PROMISE TO PROVIDE HEALTH, HOPE, AND CARE TO YOUR FAMILY, NEIGHBOURS AND OUR COMMUNITY, FOREVER.**

## OUR HOSPITAL, **YOUR STORIES**

**WHETHER IT'S THE BIRTH OF A NEW BABY,** complex cardiac care, cancer treatment or emergency visits, for 100 years, Southlake has shown a passion to care for our communities. From our humble beginnings with just six beds, we have evolved into an advanced regional health centre, building healthy communities through outstanding care, innovative partnerships, and amazing people. Together with the kindness and generosity of neighbours like you, we are looking to the future of healthcare in our communities and hope you consider safeguarding compassionate, leading edge care close to home for our future generations.

**This is your hospital—and these are your stories.**

Thank you for taking some time to learn more about how you can make a promise to the future of healthcare in our community with a gift in your Will to Southlake. On these pages, we are sharing stories of some of our loyal and cherished donors who have made the inspiring decision to remember Southlake in their Will. As you read their stories, we hope you reflect on your own story about what matters to you most and your hopes and dreams for the future of healthcare at Southlake.

I hope you enjoy reading these stories about kind, caring and compassionate fellow neighbours—people like you—who are part of the Southlake Legacy Circle. Thank you for your vital and vibrant support.



**THE FUTURE OF SOUTHLAKE** means that we must continue to deliver high-quality, leading edge healthcare to our community, in our community. However, we live in a region that is one of the fastest-growing in Canada, expanding at a much greater rate than the provincial average. Our physicians and staff have gone above and beyond in overcoming barriers presented by our existing facilities, to deliver the very best care to each patient. To meet the growing demand over the next 10, 20, and 30 years, the need to redevelop our existing campus and to build a brand new hospital with the most up-to-date equipment is vital. With the continued support of our community and our commitment to compassionate leading edge care, we are committed to building a healthier community now and well into the future.

*J. Klotz-Ritter*

Jennifer Klotz-Ritter, President and CEO  
Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation



## BEV'S STORY: FROM MY FAMILY'S KITCHEN TABLE...

**I WAS BORN AND RAISED ON A DAIRY FARM IN BUTTONVILLE,** and I always remember our family kitchen table being a place where we talked about what mattered, how we could help our neighbours, why it was important to share what we had and give to help others. Today, I live in Sharon and I have three children and eight grandchildren; it fills my heart that they are generous, loving and they care about our family and their neighbours. They would fit right in at that old kitchen table!

All my kids know how strongly I feel about giving. **They know about my**

**decision to remember Southlake in my Will—and they feel good about it too!** They know it matters to me. Southlake is a leading hospital in Ontario and I want to make sure it stays that way. Southlake deserves their excellent reputation; they earned it! It's not up to me how the hospital spends my money, down the road. I trust this hospital, and I know they will use it wisely. I have complete confidence in the hospital to do what's right at the right time.



## JOAN'S STORY: SEEING THROUGH TIME

**I AM SO FORTUNATE TO HAVE RECEIVED CARDIAC CARE AT SOUTHLAKE.** When I had recovered from my cardiac arrest, it was important to me to donate in support of the hospital, as a way of paying back and expressing my gratitude. I also felt that if other people, before me, hadn't donated, I would not have had the care that I did. **I give today—and I'm giving in my Will—and it's like seeing through time.** We have urgent needs now, and certainly into the future as our hospital and our community grows. Southlake helped me when I needed them most and my decision to leave a gift in my Will to support the future needs of Southlake is the least I can do.

Without our hospital, my life would be very different. When your life, or your quality of life is at stake, our hospital becomes extremely important. We're all going to turn up at the hospital from time to time, and I believe we should support it. I've trusted Southlake with my health, and I trust Southlake to do what's right today and every day to help our community. That gives me a feeling of security and confidence.

## BRUCE'S STORY: LEADING WITH GRATITUDE

**MY STORY STARTED AT WAL-MART!** I was out shopping when my knees felt weak and almost gave way. When I got home, I was putting groceries in the fridge and I fell over and passed out. I woke up and was able to call for help. You hope you never need medical help. I never thought I would. But I'm so deeply grateful for the care and attention I received. What I remember most about my time at Southlake is the people. Everyone I encountered was professional, helpful and just happy! They help patients with compassion and love.

When I got home from that hospital stay, it really sunk in.

I received excellent care, close to my home, at no cost to me. And it struck me: *"Bruce, life's been good to you, why don't you repay that?"* We are all citizens of planet Earth, there is no difference between any of us. **I give every year, and I'm also giving in my Will.** My mother taught me that when people are good to you, you pay it back. She taught me about leading with gratitude. And I know she would be proud today.



## GARY'S STORY: OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT

**OUR HOSPITAL DOES GREAT WORK FOR A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE.** And I should know: I worked there for 17 years, retiring as Chief Innovation Officer. It was important to me to lead by example and show that I am committed to our organization. I've seen for myself—countless times—how donations are put to excellent use. Because of donations and financial support from the community, Southlake can purchase equipment, train staff and provide the best patient care.

Southlake's future is bright. And it's important to me to support our hospital into the future.

Southlake is cutting edge—it's an exemplary, world-class hospital. **For me, a gift of life insurance was the best way to donate.** It was a cost-effective and simple way to amplify my contribution to Southlake. It was a great way to leverage what I was able to afford now and make a large impact later.

## YVONNE'S STORY: HOW DO I WANT TO BE REMEMBERED?

**SOUTHLAKE IS MY LOCAL HOSPITAL.** It's very important to me that we have a top-notch hospital close by, without having to go to Toronto. When I was a patient, I felt very much at home. The staff are just terrific. I'll never forget the friendliness of the nurses and their positive attitude. You never know when you're going to need healthcare or need to go to the hospital, and we all need to do our part to help out for when our neighbours and loved ones need good care, close to home.

As part of reflecting on my Will, I was asked how I would like to be remembered. Oh, that's a good question. I want to be remembered as someone who cares about the community they live in, that cares about neighbours. **And I know that my donations today, as well as a gift in my Will, provides help and hope right now, and also for Southlake's future patients and their families.**



## WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME** to learn more about how you can help support the future of healthcare at Southlake. I understand that leaving a legacy gift is a very meaningful and personal decision. I would be delighted for the opportunity to have a conversation with you about leaving a legacy gift and the impact it will have on our patients, their families, and our staff for generations to come. I welcome the conversation and encourage you to call me when you are ready to share your thoughts about this very important decision and to learn more about how your support will benefit healthcare in your community.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anna Bernardi".



Anna Bernardi  
Associate Director, Philanthropy  
**DIRECT PHONE:** (289) 380-8020  
**OFFICE PHONE:** (905) 836-7333  
**EMAIL:** [abernardi@southlakeregional.org](mailto:abernardi@southlakeregional.org)

## OUR PROMISE TO YOU:

**A GIFT IN YOUR WILL** to Southlake Regional Health Centre is a promise to provide leading edge care, close to home for your community. We are honoured that you are helping secure the future health of our community with a gift in your Will.

- Your Will is a very personal document and we promise that every conversation we have with you about your Will is confidential.
- We respect your privacy.
- We understand and support that your loved ones come first.
- You are encouraged to contact us for a conversation about Southlake, and the priority needs of our hospital that interest you most. We want to ensure that your legacy gift is meaningful to you and honours your wishes.
- If you are comfortable, we would like to know if you have made a gift to Southlake in your Will. Knowing you have made a legacy gift to Southlake helps us to plan for the future and enables us to honour you in your lifetime.
- We would be delighted to provide you and your loved ones the opportunity to learn about Southlake should your decision to leave a legacy gift be a family decision.
- We deeply appreciate the confidence and trust you have in Southlake.
- We look forward to speaking with you about this very thoughtful decision and will respond promptly to your inquiries and/or concerns.



Our **Legacy Circle** honors those that have let us know that they have made a gift in their Will to Southlake. As a **Legacy Circle** donor, we are pleased to offer you these exclusive benefits:

- Invitations to special hospital tours and events, as well as opportunities to meet outstanding physicians and learn more about their work.
- Celebration with others who share the same vision for health care in our community.
- Ongoing communications on the impact of your gift in advancing healthcare in our community.
- For estate gifts of \$10,000+ recognition on Southlake's **Circle of Hope** Donor Wall.
- For estate gifts of \$25,000+ recognition in our hospital once your gift is realized.

Thank you for considering a gift to Southlake in your Will. It means so much to us. Please contact **Anna Bernardi** anytime for a confidential conversation at **(289) 380-8020** or by email at **abernardi@southlakeregional.org**.



**SOUTHLAKE**  
FOUNDATION

SOUTHLAKE REGIONAL HEALTH CENTRE FOUNDATION  
581 Davis Drive, Suite 102  
Newmarket, Ontario , L3Y 2P6  
FOUNDATION OFFICE: (905) 836-7333 extension 5126  
[www.southlake.ca/leavealegacy](http://www.southlake.ca/leavealegacy)

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