



Doug loves music so much that he taught himself to play guitar on his lunch breaks at work.

Doug's Dream of visiting Nashville came true thanks to our incredible community of supporters!

When Doug's devastating diagnosis dashed his dreams of one day visiting Nashville with his wife, Stephanie, our Dream program seemed like a miracle. And then a second miracle happened...

Doug is the kind of person you'd want as a neighbor. He's a hard-working man and loving husband to Stephanie, who can't say enough about his generosity and thoughtfulness. They have two grown-up children who think the world of him.

Life was good for Doug and his family. But in 2021, the day before Thanksgiving, he developed such an excruciating headache that he was rushed to

You can help make end-of-life Dreams come true with a gift of \$25.

the hospital. Doctors discovered a tumor in his brain and operated. The news was grim. Doug had glioblastoma. "An unforgiving brain cancer," Stephanie says.

Doug and Stephanie had a life plan. They were going to work, raise their kids, retire, and then tour Nashville's great historical music landmarks.

But Doug's diagnosis seemed to snatch everything away.

Then Stephanie found out about Dream Foundation. She had downloaded the Dream application forms when Judy, a distant cousin, came to stay.

By sheer coincidence, Judy runs annual birthday card fundraisers for Dreams (you can read more about her and her fundraisers in this newsletter!).

Judy immediately wanted to help. She launched another fundraiser for Dreams—this time, for someone she knew.

"Every day, we were treated to a special treat! We went backstage at The Time Jumpers' concert, Doug built his own guitar, we were part of the song-writers conversation at The Bluebird Café, we had a band-guest table at a Carbon Leaf concert, the Opry surpassed all expectations, and SO much more."

With Judy's fundraising funds, we were able to make Doug's Dream truly special. We reached out to our incredible community of supporters for more help. Alaska Airlines and Turo helped with transportation. Angie and Mike Leone,



Music-lover Doug even built his own guitar as a special guest at Guitar Build Workshop in Nashville.

Dream Vacation Rental Network members, helped with a weeklong stay in Nashville, along with Airbnb host Moriah. Hearing about Doug's love for music, Thomas Rhett and Suzanne Mayernick at Love One International gifted him a signed Thomas Rhett Guitar!

And that's not all. When they got to Nashville, The Johnny Cash Museum and The Patsy Cline Museum gave Doug and Stephanie free admission. They were guests at the Grand Ole Opry and live music venue, 3rd and Lindsley. The Bluebird Café also welcomed them.

Doug and Stephanie's Nashville adventure was packed full of love, laughter, memories and music, thanks to our incredible community who gave them more than they ever dreamed of! And the experience brought Stephanie and Judy closer, so the distant cousins are now fast friends.



Katie and Mike from our partner Genentech (right) visited Doug and Stephanie to deliver everything provided for Doug's Nashville Dream.



As a hospice worker, Lesleigh saw first-hand the happiness and joy Dreams brought to patients and their families.

Lesleigh works magic for those facing the end of life with monthly gifts!

Lesleigh first met Dream Foundation when she was working with hospice services 11 years ago. She went on to help fulfill several Dreams that she can still vividly remember today.

"It was such a wonderful experience to ... know that my work was part of a team providing first class happy last Dreams for our patients and families," she says. "Your gifts to all were received with love and gratitude."

In 2021, Lesleigh began making monthly gifts to help make Dreams come true. "I am so happy to continue to support the great work that you all do! Every human being I have ever met wants three things: to be seen, valued, and heard." That's what Dreams provide!

"I don't think of it as making Dreams come true for the terminally ill. I think of it as helping them live!"

After Judy's son, Nathaniel Sharp 2001, and husband, Terry Sellers 2021, died from rare cancers, Judy wanted to honor the spirit that made them both live their lives to the fullest, right until the end.

She founded what became the Sharp-Sellers Foundation in memory of them both. And each year, she sends letters to friends and family, asking people to write memories about each on enclosed blank birthday cards and to return them with monetary gifts, if possible.

Judy shares the returned birthday cards with her grandchildren so they have more memories to treasure. And she sends all the gifts to Dream Foundation to help make someone's Dream come true so they too can live their life to the fullest, right until the end.



Judy makes Dreams come true with annual birthday card and Bands Together fundraisers.

Welcome to your April Dream Journal!

I want to tell you about Rickey. You don't know him, but thanks to you, he's about to hear that his Dream is coming true.



Rickey has been undergoing cancer treatment and was recently told that he has fewer than eight weeks to live. Throughout his treatment and many setbacks, he's stayed strong and optimistic. His medical team tried everything. This was the outcome everyone dreaded.

He hasn't been able to work for the longest time, so he lives hand to mouth. But because of the support you have shown, Rickey will be able to take his four kids, all under 10 years old, for a day of family fun. Something they haven't experienced before that will leave them with memories of a special day out with their dad. That's his Dream, and it would have been impossible without you.

Rickey's request is just one of many we receive every week, which is why your support matters so much. Every gift you make does something amazing for someone out of time and options. Thank you for being there when they need you!

With appreciation,



Kisa Heyer
CEO, Dream Foundation



Ex-pediatric nurse Perry dreams of visiting the ocean with her mother and sister

Perry needed help writing her application letter, so Grace, the director of counseling services at the hospice where Perry is being cared for, wrote to us on her behalf.

Grace writes, "Perry's dream is to go to a beach resort ... with her mother, whom she refers to as her "best friend", and her 15-year-old sister. Her family has been her greatest support throughout her life ... her mother is the thread that binds them.

"Perry's priority now is spending time with her family and giving them the gift of precious memories to hold onto after she is gone."

Grace adds, "It's ironic really, in a sad way ... as Perry is a registered nurse who specialized in pediatric and hospice care for all her career."

Many people who need help to make their Dreams come true have spent their lives caring for others. Thank you for caring for them!

You can help make end-of-life Dreams come true with a gift of \$25.

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