

Celebrating President Jimmy Carter at 100 years old in Hospice!



- Leslie Emerick, MPA
- Director of Public Policy

Happy 100th Birthday President Carter!!

- Carter, who turned 100 years old on Tuesday, Oct. 1, is the oldest former president in U.S. history. Carter is defying the odds, with 19 months in hospice and counting.
- He reportedly has one more bucket list item he would like to accomplish before his last breath - the opportunity to cast his vote in the presidential election of 2024 for Kamala Harris.



Former President Jimmy Carter

Carter, was the 39th president of the United States from 1977 - 1981. He served as the Governor of Georgia, and a Georgia state senator.

Carter had dealt with a number of health issues in recent years.

Even so, he was involved in Habitat for Humanity until near the end of his life.

Like many Americans, Carter is receiving care that focuses on making life as comfortable as possible as death nears.



“We are all rooting for Jimmy Carter”

"He has done more for us than we could ever do for ourselves by pointing out that it's a reasonable choice to make.

He's given everybody permission to consider that as a reasonable option that doesn't shorten their life, but does increase their comfort and fulfillment..."

Barbara Pearce, CEO
Connecticut Hospice



Carter at his wife of 77 years Rosalynn's funeral service.

Decision to Enter Hospice Care



- Predicting how long somebody has to live is difficult...
- People can be enrolled in hospice if their doctor believes that the prognosis of the patient to be 6 months or less.
- If the patient continues to show appropriateness for hospice, then the physician can extend and continue to certify for continued care.
- The patient and their families make the final decision to enter hospice.
- ***“Would you be surprised if this person passed away in the next 6 months?”***

What is Hospice Care?

- Compassionate support and comfort to individuals facing terminal illnesses through a holistic approach that addresses their physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.
- Hospice includes pain and symptom management, emotional support, medications and supplies, coaching for caregivers and grief support.
- **Hospice does not include curative or life-prolonging care.**



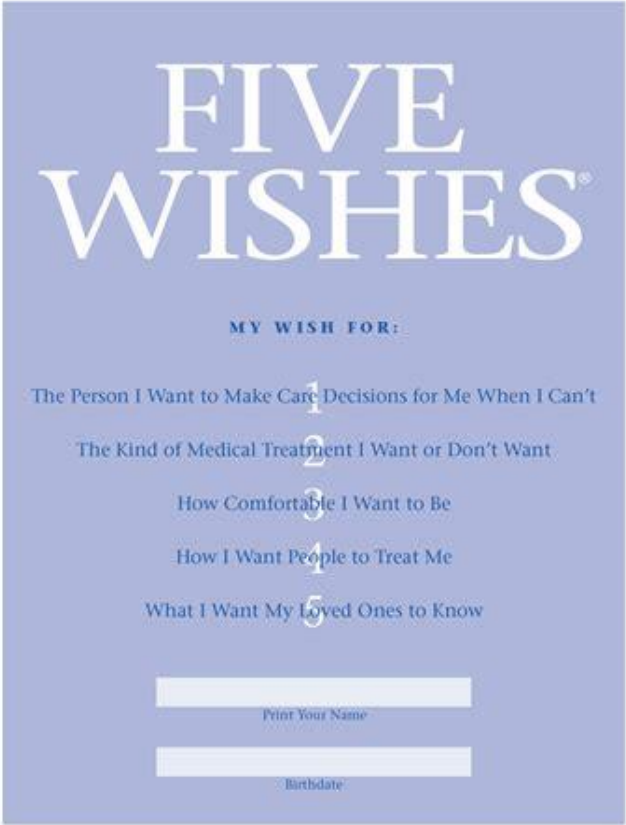
Hospice in Washington State



Hospice Care is available in every county in WA state.

The Hospice Benefit is well established in Medicare, Medicaid, PEBB and SEBB and private insurance.

How can you prepare for end-of life decisions?



FIVE WISHES®

MY WISH FOR:

- 1 The Person I Want to Make Care Decisions for Me When I Can't
- 2 The Kind of Medical Treatment I Want or Don't Want
- 3 How Comfortable I Want to Be
- 4 How I Want People to Treat Me
- 5 What I Want My Loved Ones to Know

Print Your Name _____

Birthdate _____

- **Prepare an Advanced Directive**
 - Make your end-of-life care wishes known and put it in writing.
- **Designation a Health Care Proxy**
 - Choose an advocate who could speak for you if incapacitated— and help you have a say in your care.
- **Honoring Choices PNW Good resource!**
 - <https://www.wsha.org/for-patients/end-of-life/>
- **Five Wishes**
 - Helpful to be specific around care.

Thank you!

Leslie Emerick, MPA
WA State Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
360-280-6142
lesemerick@lkemerick.com
www.wshpco.org

