



Join us at one of five Tree of Life ceremonies and other upcoming events. More information at [SamaritanNJ.org](http://SamaritanNJ.org).

# Hands-On Care and Attention



Jeaneen Davis, a Samaritan certified home health aide since 2006, wanted to do something extra to make patients and their families feel welcome at The Samaritan Center at Mount Holly.

She started making placemats for the tray table in each patient's room. Using beautiful stationery in pastel pinks, light purples, whites, and beige, she painstakingly glued Samaritan ribbon to the edges.

Theresa Goldfine, director of inpatient services, and Traci Minard, nurse manager, found examples of Jeaneen's project. They were moved by her caring attention, and sought a way to sustain her project for all families receiving care at both of our inpatient centers. They reached out to the community relations staff for help.

Christine Corti, communications specialist, worked closely with Jeaneen to design a placemat with the look-and-feel of Jeaneen's originals. Christine then reached out to Carl Buehler, president of LRP&P Graphics in Cherry Hill, NJ who generously donated the placemats' printing. Now, patients and families at both inpatient centers receive this welcoming touch – something we like to call The Samaritan Difference.

Carl and his family experienced the comfort of Samaritan's hospice care during his dad's final illness, and our grief support afterward. He says, "While we are aware that anything we can produce will not replace the personalized effort Jeaneen put into each and every piece, we are privileged to honor her by helping her carry out her personal mission to greet everyone who comes under her care with the warmth and compassion that is Samaritan's hallmark."

(800) 229-8183  
[SamaritanNJ.org](http://SamaritanNJ.org)

# HELPING HANDS

## Safe Haven for Sarge

*A Camden Vietnam vet finds comfort & strength in Samaritan's care*

Sylvester "Sarge" Lusby had no idea where Vietnam was when he was drafted into the Army in 1965 at the age of 18. Now, it's a place he can never forget.

But it's only recently that the 71-year-old veteran has felt comfortable enough to trust others with his story.

### Heat, Rain, and an Unseen Enemy

Sarge, a machine gunner in the Army's 4th Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, was stationed in the heart of the action.

The dense jungle, constant heat, and torrential rains of this unknown land were unforgiving – as was the unseen enemy hiding in the trees above and tunnels below.

### Earning a Silver Star

March 22, 1967 began as a routine search-and-destroy mission for Sarge's company until an enemy ambush inflicted major casualties: twenty-one soldiers were killed; forty-three were wounded, including his platoon leader.

Ignoring sniper, mortar, and small-arms fire around him, Sarge leaped from his secure position and began dragging American wounded and dead to cover. He then took command of his leaderless platoon, and organized its defenses. For his actions that day, he was promoted to sergeant and awarded the Silver Star -- the military's third-highest decoration for gallantry in action.

### Returning Home

Returning home after a year in combat, life was never the same for Sarge. He never spoke of what he saw, or his heroism. But he wrestles daily – and especially at night – with his memories.

Physically, severe arthritis ravages his body, especially his neck. Congestive heart failure keeps him fatigued and short of breath.

### Comfort, Support, and Dignity

Sarge says it was a "fluke" that he started receiving care from Samaritan. While hospitalized several months ago, he says with a smile "Someone took a wrong message and thought I was dying.



(from left) Susan Cedrone, LSW; Sarge; Ronnie Montgomery, RN

Since then, he says Samaritan has "been good for me in so many ways." He receives visits from nurse Veronica "Ronnie" Montgomery and social worker Susan Cedrone. His hospice team addresses Sarge's physical pain, symptoms, and post-traumatic stress through medications, supplies, and constructive conversation.

Ronnie and Susan are "my rocks, my right arm," whispers soft-spoken Sarge. He looks forward to his visits and appreciates the "camaraderie" they've developed.

Before Samaritan, he would make a painstaking bus trip and six-block walk to the Philadelphia VA for his care. Not an easy hike for a soldier with arthritis and a failing heart! With hospice care in place, Ronnie and Susan work directly with his VA healthcare provider to coordinate his medical needs.

They've also honored Sarge for his service and sacrifice with a special Samaritan recognition pin and a "Samaritan Honors Veterans" blanket made possible through the generosity of community donors.

Ronnie says, "Sarge trusts us now. We've created an environment for him to open up, talk about his experiences, and receive the comfort, support, and dignity he deserves at this time in his life. Quality of life is our number one goal."

Now, more than ever, Sarge is grateful for each day of his survival – and for his Samaritan hospice team who've created a long-awaited welcome home from the war.

Samaritan proudly participates in **We Honor Veterans** – a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

### We Honor Veterans focuses on:

- Respectful inquiry
- Compassionate listening
- Grateful recognition of veterans

Samaritan is among only 8 hospices in New Jersey which have achieved the highest 4-star level of services for our veterans.



### Highlights of our hospice services for veterans:

- Admission process that integrates the veteran's military history into care planning.
- Working with the VA, and state and county veteran-service offices to help veterans and their families access available services and benefits.
- Coverage of hospice care by VA, Tricare, Medicare, Medicaid, and most commercial insurers.
- Coordination of hospice and palliative care with VA medical centers and Community Based Outpatient Clinics as necessary.
- Outreach and education to local VA facilities and area veteran service organizations.
- Grateful recognition through cards, certificates, presentations of patriotic blankets, pinnings, application to retrieve lost medals, and observance of holidays such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day
- Recruitment and training of vet-to-vet patient volunteers who are empathetic to the special experiences of veterans.
- Veteran-centric training for staff

**Questions? Please call Samaritan at (800) 229-8183 and speak with our hospice nurses directly about your loved one's needs.**



Help Us Honor Vet Hospice Patients



Please help Samaritan continue a meaningful tradition of providing veterans in our care with a fleece recognition blanket.

Samaritan team members present the blanket (along with a pin and certificate) as a caring way to honor and serve those who have served for us. Patients and their families have been visibly moved by this ritual of gratitude. We ask your help to carry on this beautiful tribute.

A \$25 donation provides blankets for two veterans. Please visit [www.SamaritanNJ.org](http://www.SamaritanNJ.org) today, click Donate Now, and designate Veterans.

Thank you!

*Celebration of Life Gala*

HONORING OUR  
COMMUNITY'S VETERANS

Sponsored by Holman Automotive

February 10, 2018  
The Crowne Plaza  
Cherry Hill, NJ

Visit [SamaritanNJ.org](http://SamaritanNJ.org) for tickets and sponsorship information.



Tree of Life Ceremonies

Please join us at one of five free area ceremonies:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Tuesday, November 28 at 7:00 PM in Collingswood | Monday, December 11 at 7:00 PM in West Deptford   |
| Thursday, November 30 at 6:00 PM in Hamilton    | Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 PM in Medford   |
| Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 PM in Moorestown    | Visit <a href="http://SamaritanNJ.org">SamaritanNJ.org</a> for locations and to dedicate a light. |

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>DRESS LOUD CONTEST SPONSOR</b><br>Mancine Optical                           | <b>MEDIA SPONSOR</b><br>JerseyMan Magazine  |
| <b>PLATINUM SPONSOR</b><br>Holman Toyota                                       | <b>GOLD SPONSORS</b><br>Corcentric<br>Conner Strong & Buckelew<br>Innovative Benefit Planning<br>Kennedy Health<br>Korn Ferry<br>Liberty Bell Bank<br>Lourdes Health System<br>OKI Data Americas, Inc.<br>Parker McCay<br>The Streep Family<br>Virtua |
| <b>PRINTING SPONSOR</b><br>LRP&P Graphics                                      |   |
| <b>GOLF CART SPONSORS</b><br>MedEast Post-Op & Surgical<br>The Protocall Group |   |

#BeforeIDie Community Gathering

Sunday, October 29 from 11:30 AM - 6:30 PM  
Perkins Center for the Arts, Collingswood

Samaritan, the Courier-Post, and Perkins Center for the Arts are proud partners for this thought-provoking and fun event. Join us for an interactive day of conversation, information, music and more that allows you to dabble, or jump in, to end-of-life conversations at your own pace.

Workshops



**QUEEN NUR**  
Storyteller and artist Queen Nur delivers a captivating live performance, showcasing cultures' shared humanity through folklore interactive storytelling.



**NICOLE ANGEMI**  
*How the Dead Teach the Living*  
The local pathologist's assistant has built a huge Instagram fanbase (1.3 million followers and counting) by sharing insightful, educational photos of bodily injuries and diseases.



**BENITA COOPER**  
*The Best Day of My Life So Far*  
This program strives to reduce older adult isolation and promote intergenerational engagement through storytelling, sharing, caring, and listening.



**ALISON DILWORTH**  
Philadelphia muralist, painter, photographer, blogger, and doula will lead a discussion of her blog post, "Your Bartender is Having a Miscarriage and You Order Another Round," about miscarriage, taboo subjects, resilience, and the creation of shrines.

Exhibitors

- Venard Cabbler - Author
- Camden County Surrogate
- Community Rocks!
- Gabriel Corti - Magician
- Courier-Post
- Death Couture
- Financial Planners
- Funeral Homes
- Gift of Life Donor Program
- Humanity Gifts Registry
- Image Explosion, LLC
- Inkwood Books
- McCann-Healey Funeral Home
- Samaritan Healthcare & Hospice
- Tear Drop Memories
- Tyanna Foundation
- Virtua Perinatal Bereavement Program

Ages 21+ Only  
2:00PM- 6:30 PM

Children's Activities 11:30 AM -1:30 PM

Food and Drink

- Starts at 3:00PM
- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Tortilla Press   | • Tonewood        |
| • Bistro di Marino | • Flying Fish     |
| • Harvest Grill    | • Sharrott Winery |
| • The Square Meal  |                   |

Live Music

Starts at 4:30PM

Event times and more details: [SamaritanNJ.org](http://SamaritanNJ.org)

Ways to Give Before Year End

Cooler temperatures and the approaching holidays remind us that a new year is just around the corner. They also bring a timely reminder to consider your will, tax, estate, and charitable giving plans.

Give the Gift of Hospice

- Gifts of Cash** – Your check, postmarked by December 31, is eligible for a charitable deduction on your 2017 income-tax return.
- Appreciated Stock** – By gifting directly to Samaritan, you can avoid capital gains tax, and still earn a deduction for the stock's current market value.
- Your Will** – Through a simple bequest, it is possible to leave a legacy, with a gift that costs you nothing during your lifetime.



- Charitable Gift Annuity** – In addition to earning a deduction, our CGA pays you a guaranteed fixed income for life.
- Trusts** – Charitable trusts can be a powerful tool to transfer assets to heirs, and avoid taxes. Visit our planned giving web pages to learn more, and consult your trusted personal financial advisor.

To learn more about these and other opportunities please contact Chief Development Officer Chris Rollins, CFRE at (856) 552-3287 or [CRollins@SamaritanNJ.org](mailto:CRollins@SamaritanNJ.org).

Open House!

Join us in celebrating  
**National Hospice Awareness Month**  
Tuesday, November 14  
6:30 AM to 8:00 PM  
The Samaritan Center at Voorhees  
265 Route 73 South

Caring for Your Loved One: Practical Tips from a Pro



**(10:30 AM - 12:00 PM)**  
This workshop by Eva Russell, Samaritan's Director of Clinical Support, includes helpful how-to's on caregiver self-care, bathing the bed-bound, mouth care, preventing bed sores, and nutrition.

Portraits of Professional CAREgivers: Their Passion, Their Pain:



**(1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)**  
**Film & Discussion**  
If you've ever wondered how professional caregivers and first responders do what they do, day after day, this illuminating film offers a journey into a world the public has not seen. Join the film's producers for a discussion on what professionals call "compassion fatigue" and coping with workplace stress.

Timely Conversations: Question to Ask Your Doctor



**(3:00 PM - 4:00 PM)**  
Join Dr. Stephen Goldfine, Samaritan's chief medical officer, for an empowering discussion of questions to discuss with your primary care physicians and specialists at all stages of health and illness on topics such as advance care planning, POLST, and the right time for palliative and hospice care.

Being Mortal



**(6:00 PM - 8:00 PM)**  
**Film & Discussion**  
Based on the best-selling book by Atul Gawande, this PBS Frontline documentary explores and fosters the national conversation about what matters most to patients and families facing difficult treatment decisions, and how to have these conversations ahead of a medical crisis.

Light refreshments will be served throughout the day.  
Please RVSP: [ccorti@SamaritanNJ.org](mailto:ccorti@SamaritanNJ.org) or (856) 552-3258

Golf Tournament Benefits Patients



(from left) Board Chair John Gillespie, President/CEO Mary Ann Boccolini, Tournament Presenting Sponsor Shirley and Jim Richardson of The Richardson Family Dealerships, Golf Committee Co-Chair & Board Member Roy Fazio



Samaritan's Annual Golf Tournament, sponsored by **The Richardson Family Dealerships**, welcomed 180 golfers to raise funds and awareness for Samaritan's not-for-profit services.

The tournament raised more than \$154,000 to help Samaritan provide care for community members dealing with serious illness.

"We are so grateful for the tremendous outpouring of support for this year's tournament," said Mary Ann Boccolini, Samaritan President/CEO.