

# extra**EXTRA**



THANK YOU  
A LIFE'S WISH!

**Hospice For Utah: helping dreams come true**

**HFU NEWS**

## On a Wing and an Oxygen Tank

### A Life's Wish

Hospice For Utah would like to thank  
**A Life's Wish**  
for making this dream a reality!

*It means so much to us to see these senior citizens being able to fulfill their Dreams*

-Judy Oeser, treasurer of A Life's Wish



**-A Life's Wish will grant many types of wishes, to include:**

- Needs Based Wishes (wheelchair, ramp, hospital bed)
- Last Wishes (see someplace one last time)
- Lifetime Dream Wishes (sky dive, be on TV, meet a significant person)

**Val**, a 67 year old man suffering from emphysema and end stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, visits the Grand Canyon!

**The Herald Journal**

**Author(s) :** Charles Geraci

**Date:** July 26, 2009

Val Seamons stepped onto the tarmac Thursday morning, eager for the flight of his life.

Since he was a child, he'd always dreamed of this day, and it was difficult to believe it was actually happening. With the tubing of his oxygen tank tightly wound in his hand, Seamons, a hospice patient, stared up at the four-passenger Piper plane, about to embark on a day trip to one of the world's wonders.

The pilot of the propped him up onto the wing of the aircraft and helped him into the co-pilot position. Moments later, the plane left the Logan-Cache Airport, bound for the Grand Canyon. Seamons, 67, fondly recalls viewing photos of the site as a child, but hadn't planned on seeing it for himself. After all, doctors have said he likely has fewer than six months to live. So when Diane Crossley, a registered nurse with Hospice For Utah, asked Seamons if he wanted to visit the Grand Canyon, his face lit up immediately. He said, "I'll be there."

Hospice for Utah solicited the help of A Life's Wish, a nonprofit organization that grants wishes for seniors, in making the trip possible. After about three hours in the air, the South Rim of the Grand Canyon came into view. "I wanted to take everything in all at once," he said. "My head was going around like a yo-yo."



"I wanted to take everything in all at once. My head was going around like a yo-yo."

*Val preparing for the trip*

Crossley added, "He was very quiet, which he normally isn't. He was just so fascinated. It was almost like he was speechless." Seamons said he is grateful for the three organizations that fueled the experience. "It really tells me they care," he said. "It's something I've always dreamed of doing, and it happened."

**January Quote: "Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die tomorrow"**

**-James Dean**

For More Life's Wish Stories, Visit [www.alifewish.org](http://www.alifewish.org)

## About A Life's Wish



terminal illness, are under hospice care, living in a long-term care facility, or participate in an adult day care program. It is our vision to grant wishes that change lives! There is no wish too big or too small! If you want to know if you or someone you know can qualify for a lifetime wish come true, please contact us or submit the wish request form found at:

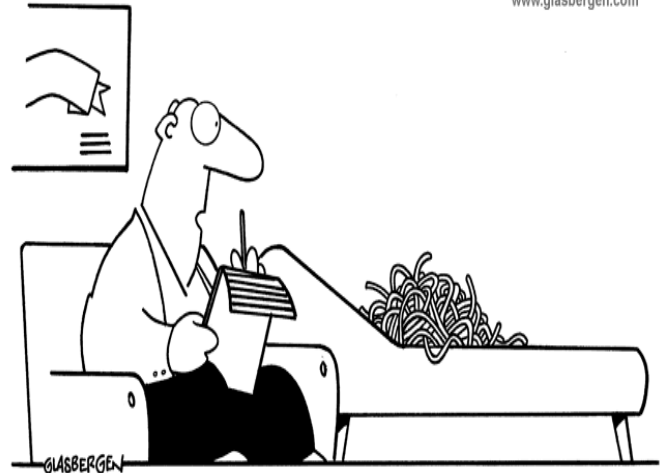
[www.alifeswish.org](http://www.alifeswish.org)

A Life's Wish is an independent, non-profit organization that has been granting wishes since the spring of 2009.

A Life's Wish will honor the wishes of both Senior Citizens (regardless of health) and Adults between the ages of 18-64 that have a

## Sometimes laughter is the best medicine...

Copyright 2006 by Randy Glasbergen.  
[www.glasbergen.com](http://www.glasbergen.com)



"The low-carb diet is losing popularity, but you still feel persecuted?"

<http://www.glasbergen.com/images/m026.gif>

## Reconnecting With Loved Ones

Fred, an 80 year old man, suffering from Parkinson's disease requested a trip to Florida to see his brother and sister. His brother is in poor health and was preparing for a major surgery. He also wanted to visit his son, who is the Director of a Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Hospital, in Georgia. He is a very proud father and wanted to visit the hospital that his son had started. With the help of A Life's Wish, we were able to send Fred, and his wife Twila, on the trip of their dreams!



Fred and His Son at the Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Hospital.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Professional Caregiver's Conference: May 20<sup>th</sup> 2010



Hospice For Utah would like to announce Françoise Mathieu, M.Ed. CCC., is the Keynote Speaker for the 2010 Caregiver Conference. She is a certified mental health professional with a master's degree in counseling and a certification as a compassion fatigue specialist. Her passion is working with health professionals who are seeking improved self-care and looking for new strategies to combat burnout. She is the director of WHP, a consulting firm that specializes in offering workshops, consulting and counseling to helping professionals on topics related to self care, wellness and compassion fatigue.

Check online at [www.hospice4utah.com](http://www.hospice4utah.com) soon for online registration information.

## Goals & Dreams

Hospice For Utah care teams do more than just care for a patient's medical needs. We encourage goals, hobbies, dreams, and last wishes. Some goals are simple, others are elaborate, but all are very important to a patient's spiritual health and well-being.

We encourage all caregivers to be mindful of what brings joy and hope to their loved ones.

## What is Extra Extra?



Extra Extra is a monthly newsletter detailing some of the "extras" that Hospice For Utah has to offer.

If you have any questions, please call

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