

Mission Moments

Made Possible By YOU!

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A Good Life

Tangram was established in 1985, during a time in history when there were few options in independent living for people with disabilities. Carol has been served by Tangram since 1987, when she moved into the Greenbrook group home in Greenfield, IN, making her one of Tangram's earliest clients, and now, one of our longest served clients. This residence is one of several affordable, accessible homes owned by Tangram.

Anyone who knows Carol knows that she is friendly and fun to talk to. "Carol has been such a shining light in the house all of these years and she loves meeting people. She will talk to them all day," said Cory Brown, her Program Manager.



Pictured: Carol, smiling, at her home.

While her family has always been happy with the support Carol receives through Tangram, it became even more important to them when she started receiving hospice care in May 2019. They chose to keep Carol in her home of 33 years, knowing that Tangram would provide the best care possible and that Carol would have the best quality of life with her housemates and the staff that has cared for her for so long. Carol's brother, Bob, recently expressed his gratitude to the employees who work with Carol, saying, "I know she feels like you are family to her."

At the time she entered hospice care, her doctors estimated that she had only a few weeks to live. As weeks turned into months, Carol's team was astonished, but grateful to have more time with her.

"We have thrown movie parties for her and she has many different crafts that she loves to do," Cory explained. Carol was also a member of Tangram's music club. While she reduced her visits to the club, she was able to attend a few times last year, to the delight of the volunteers who had fallen in love with her charming smile and pleasant attitude. When the volunteers learned about her declining health, the lead volunteer, Diane, offered to visit her in her home and bring music to her, which she enjoyed.

For the last 33 years, Carol has been able to live independently in a home she loves and with housemates who have become family to her. There's no doubt that she has had options that wouldn't have been available to her in a nursing home or institution and, even in the last chapter of her life, she has been able to sustain her quality of life. This is the outcome we strive for with every person we serve, and we are proud to help Carol live an extraordinary life.

In late 2019, Tangram was awarded \$75,000 through United Way of Central Indiana's Basic Needs Fund. This grant supports essential services that Tangram provides to individuals with disabilities which allow them to live independently. This story, and many others like it, are made possible through support received from United Way.