



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cooler gift recognizes the contribution of volunteer Reta Bevan

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Monday, April 7, 2014 - Visitors who have entered Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) lately will have noticed that there is a lovely addition outside the Little Treasure Shop. The flower cooler has increased the shop's ability to offer fresh flower arrangements to visitors for a reasonable price.

On Wednesday, April 9th the cooler will have its provenance identified and appreciated. It has been provided by the family of Reta Bevan and members of the Orange Crystal Circle to recognize Reta's dedication to the Auxiliary in many areas.

Reta joined this Auxiliary when it was still the Cobourg Hospital Auxiliary to the Northumberland Health Care Corporation. The actual date was December 12, 2000. On the application form, she indicated that her availability was 'flexible' – a masterpiece of understatement as it turned out. Over her years of service she was active in the Little Treasure Shop, Petticoat Lane, Chemotherapy and patient services on the second floor – the 'water jugs' as they are affectionately called.

But she found her particular calling when the 'new' hospital opened and she took on responsibility for providing fresh flowers to be displayed on the garden cart donated by the family of a former gift shop coordinator, Chan Rae. It's fitting that Reta's family and friends should keep her memory and presence alive by the generous gift of the cooler to continue the availability of fresh flowers at NHH.

When illness struck, Reta did not give up easily. Long after most of us would have yielded to such an illness, Reta got up every morning, put on her makeup and her jewellery and her positive attitude and came to NHH to fulfill her various commitments.

Her family has lost a staunch ally and loving supporter. We thank them for including NHH in their commemoration of a valiant life.

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For more information please contact: Patricia Fenner, patricia.fenner@sympatico.ca