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Then and Now

As part of our hospital's 100-year anniversary, we are taking a look at Then and Now by highlighting a hospital associate who has been a valuable part of our history in each issue of The Pulse.



Shortly after the Navy brought Katy Crowell and her husband, Bill, to St. Mary's County, Katy interviewed for a secretarial position at Hospice of St. Mary's. Before that interview in 1995, Katy had no idea what Hospice was. But after her interview, she knew she had to be a part of the work they were doing.

In the early days of her career, Katy struggled. "One of the hardest things I had to do was call physicians' offices, volunteers and equipment companies with death notices." And right when she thought that Hospice wasn't the place for her, she says, "everything fell into place. I became comfortable." And Hospice is where she has stayed. "You get far more than you ever give with Hospice."

Throughout the years, Hospice grew quickly and Katy's roles changed as a result. In 1998, when Hospice of St. Mary's became a department of St. Mary's Hospital, Katy's title morphed to business coordinator. In that role she took over patient billing, insurance matters and often did the admissions paperwork for new patients.

By 2009, Katy had taken part in six location changes with

Hospice. That summer, Hospice moved out of the square in Leonardtown and into 3 Central while the finishing touches were being put on the new Hospice House in Callaway.

In December of the same year, Katy was named the volunteer coordinator of Hospice. She oversees more than 100 volunteers, who she says, "are the best group of people I have ever had the opportunity to work with. Their paycheck is a thank you, yet they give so much."

Katy also helps to coordinate the Hospice Fun Run & Walk - something she calls "my passion." The first event saw 250 participants, and over the course of 18 years has grown to more than 2,000. "We netted more than sixty-thousand dollars last year because of all of the volunteers who came together to make the event a success." The event is also a family affair for Katy, whose husband, daughter, Tricia, and son, Trey (pictured), as well as her family from North Carolina, makes the trip each year to participate. She's already busily planning for the April 13, 2013 race.

Having worked at Hospice for 17 years, Katy says, "I wouldn't be here today if I didn't love it." And her love for Hospice and the people she works with certainly shows!

