

REMEMBERING . . .

Over the last year the West Park Hospital Foundation lost some very special friends, who will never be forgotten. West Park Hospital is blessed by their legacy of goodwill and support; others will continue to benefit from the care their donations have financed.

(Editor's note: respecting the wishes of Margaret, we are not publishing her photograph)

Margaret Rossiter, or Marg, as she was known among her friends at West Park Hospital where she was a client for more than 20 years, believed in the happiness of others. She knew the value of supporting an organization that helped so many people. In her lifetime, Marg gave significantly to the West Park Hospital Foundation. The money she donated helped to buy equipment for the Respiratory Rehabilitation and Chronic Assisted Ventilatory Care services and to keep up the award-winning grounds at West Park Hospital.

Marg was an artist and possessed an artist's soul. She was instrumental in developing the annual Art in the Park art show.

She was also an untiring member of the Residents' Council. Hers was a strong voice that spoke on behalf of those who couldn't speak. But most important, Marg was a friend to West Park Hospital and the clients and staff who live and work here. She died on December 24, 1997. Yet her spirit lives on through

the photos of the grounds she had taken over the years and through her generous gifts to the Foundation.



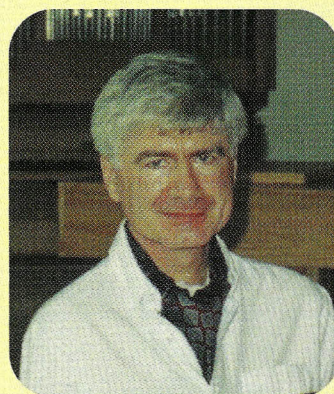
Margaret E. Christie

It is hard to forget the smiles on the faces of clients who attended the free John McDermott concert at West Park Hospital on a rainy afternoon in June, 1997. His appearance at West Park that day, and his association with the hospital, is due in large part to Margaret or Peg, as she was known - volunteer and long-time friend of the hospital.

Through the years, Peg's was a familiar face welcoming people to the hospital from behind the Enquiry Desk where she volunteered one day a week. "She loved meeting people and serving on the Enquiry Desk gave her the opportunity to do just

that," says Owen Cliff, former Foundation board member and close friend of Peg's. "She loved coming to West Park - it was always on her mind."

Peg was also a good ambassador for West Park and always spoke highly of the facility when out in the community. "I know she was very grateful for the care her husband received while on the Neurological Rehabilitation Service, so she had first-hand knowledge about the quality of care here."



David R. Leach spent a great deal of his life in and out of hospitals fighting a rare disease called Progressive Sensory Motor Neuropathy, Type 3. It's a disease that afflicts only one in one million people. But despite setbacks and difficulty living with a disease that slowly shuts down the body so that you can't move or even

breathe, he never complained and accepted every challenge life put before him. David was active in the Boy Scouts in his hometown of Alliston, Ontario and was very involved in community organizations, such as the Kinsman and Rotary Clubs. He also was a staunch supporter of a place where he learned to live an independent life - West Park Hospital.

"David was the first person in our community to live at home on a respirator," recalls Margaret Leach, David's mother. "The local hospital was not equipped to handle David, so West Park Hospital worked with our local home care agency so that David could live at home. He lived 10 years here on a respirator and enjoyed his visits with friends, especially when it came to playing cribbage."

David was committed to people in need and hospitals like West Park. In 1991, David lost his father to a deadly respiratory disease. He made significant contributions to West Park in his father's name. Today, trees, benches and a walkway on the grounds of the hospital bear the name Leach as a lasting tribute to a father and son who fought battles against disease. "He never forgot how well he was treated at West Park," says Mrs. Leach. "I never forget that either."