

Jim

Volunteer (Retired 2017)

Hawthorne Volunteer since 2001

Days of the week: Friday



What motivated you to Volunteer at The Hawthorne?

When I was newly diagnosed, I sought help and quickly I felt I was not alone and was given encouragement, information, and was better prepared for my future.

What do you enjoy most about volunteering?

Meeting newly diagnosed people and helping them get over the initial hurdles.

What situation has touched the most?

Long ago on a quiet Friday afternoon a lady walked in and I asked her "Can I help you?" She responded in a quiet voice and said: "No one can help me!" I invited her to sit down and suggested we just talk. Indeed, she had a lot of problems, cancer, divorce, finances, children have gone astray, etc. We had some coffee, and I was non-judgmental, and she did 95% of the talking. It was a big help to her just to have someone that gave her an hour. We said a few common prayers and she left with a smile on her face.

When I needed help The Hawthorne was there for me. I try to give more than I receive. But I am never too proud to ask for help. I have made some long-term friends there. I feel somewhat sad that I no longer can volunteer, but I cherish the memories from those many Fridays and other special occasions at The Hawthorne.