

Margaret and Michael's story

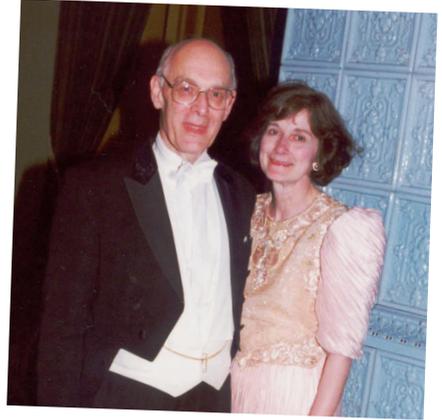
"The atmosphere at the Festival of Light is amazing. It's a celebration that gives families a chance to express their feelings and remember their loved ones."

"My husband Michael was admitted to the St Luke's In-Patient Centre in 2016 after living for two years with pancreatic cancer. The care at St Luke's is so special because it is not only tailored to the personal needs of the patient, but to their whole family. We were astonished at the care we all received.

St Luke's gave me the gift of being with Michael all the time in the last weeks of his life. As well as supporting me and my family emotionally, they took away my worries about practical things like laundry and meals, leaving me space and time to spend with him.

Being able to sleep in the same bed until the end was a great comfort to us both. We were married for 51 years and never slept well when we were apart. On Michael's last night I was there with him, he squeezed my hand and then he was gone.

At St Luke's you don't feel like hope is fading, instead they make things possible. Michael was able to carry on listening to the classical music he loved and with the help of Clare, who runs the Oral History project, continued working on a lecture he hoped to give. We treasure those recordings now. To my amazement, at the age of 82, Michael even agreed to try a new and entirely out of character experience, a luxury spa bath, which he clearly enjoyed. Where else would patients get such amazing care?



Margaret & Michael

I am so thankful to everyone at St Luke's for their world-class professionalism and compassion and for everything they did for Michael and me, our family, colleagues and friends. We have many good memories of those last days."

"For as long as I can I will come along to the Festival of Light to remember Michael and to support St Luke's. I want this incredible care to be available to everyone who needs it."

Margaret

St Luke's

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