



Mary Denise Smith,  
R.N., M.S., C.N.S.  
Palliative Medicine &  
Comfort Care Team



OHSU  
Center for Ethics  
in Health Care

3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Rd  
UHN-86  
Portland, OR 97239-3098

(503) 494-4466 *phone*  
(503) 494-1260 *fax*

[www.ohsu.edu/ethics](http://www.ohsu.edu/ethics)  
[ethics@ohsu.edu](mailto:ethics@ohsu.edu)



(above) Barbara L. Glidewell,  
M.B.S., CEC, Director, OHSU  
Patient Relations and Patient  
Advocate/ Ombudsman, receives  
handmade quilts from the generous  
Salvation Army Quilt Ladies.



(above left) OHSU Companion  
Quilters volunteer their time to  
make handmade quilts.



OHSU CENTER *for* ETHICS *in* HEALTH CARE  
*companion quilts*





## Companion Quilts Needed

When E. Jay Greger was nearing death after sudden cardiac arrest, her family gathered lovingly around her to say their heartfelt good byes. A vibrantly colored hand-crafted quilt was placed gently on the bed as the family drew near. And, with this simple gesture, medical technology that could no longer sustain E. Jay's life receded into the background, and E. Jay herself and the love and support of her devoted family came fully into focus. As her husband Len, her soulmate of 60 years, recalls:

*“That is the last view I had of her; lying under the quilt. Here at home it provides a sense of her presence to me and my family. This quilt will forever be that presence, and it is helping me to come to a stage of peace.”*



Each year the Quilt Program provides hand-made quilts that are placed on the beds of terminally ill patients at University Hospital. The family may then take the quilt home as a loving keepsake after their loved one dies. Every quilt is a gift of love, and offers incalculable comfort to patients and their loved ones during this sacred time.

If you or a group you know would like to contribute a quilt (or quilts) to this program, please note the following details:

- Lap size quilts are ideal, 42-44” wide and 46-50” long. We are flexible about the size, use what works best for your material.
- Can be simple envelope quilt (two pieces of material and batting sewn together with a few ties).
- Of course we welcome more artistic ones(i.e. pieced, quarter yard designs applique), but not necessary.
- Theme quilts are great in a variety of areas and colors (for men and women).
- We need around 400-500 quilts per year.

*If you are interested in contributing to or learning more about this program, please contact the Center for Ethics in Health Care: 503.494.4466, or [ethics@ohsu.edu](mailto:ethics@ohsu.edu)*