

ISAIAH HOUSE

Heartwork

YOUR
HEART

XOXO

TRUE
LOVE



Ed & Patrice

They say we labor coming into the world, and we labor leaving it. Isaiah House volunteers provide the support and comfort that patients and families need as they labor out of this world.

Ed arrived three months ago along with his wife, Patrice, and daughter, Laine. He has been a wonderful husband and father while serving our city of Rochester for years. When I met Ed he was unable to speak.

A recurrent condition caused Patrice to be hospitalized shortly after their arrival. When she called from the hospital to check in on Ed we put the phone up to his ear. As clear as day he said "I love you." He said it again and then again. Patrice had never dreamed she would hear those words again. It had been too long.

She didn't want to miss one "I love you."

She was able to obtain a day pass to return to Isaiah House where she eagerly climbed into bed with her husband. He instinctively reached his arm around her and held her.

Just yesterday we celebrated Ed's birthday. Patrice gave him a kiss and he said "one more," and asked again and again.

If leaving this world is like coming into it, then aren't the last memories in life as precious as the first ones? As parents we will never forget the first time we witness our children's first words or steps. Having been at the bedside for over 19 years I have been privileged to see how precious the last memories are too, the memories left behind to bring comfort to a broken heart.

Patrice never thought she would get one more I love you or "one more." Though the thought of Ed leaving her overwhelms her, these precious moments are getting her through. Rather than saying "why us?," she spends her time expressing how grateful she is for more time and every word.

The words I love you should always carry the same impact and be spoken with the same intention as they do today at Isaiah House. This year's **Heartwork Campaign** will enable us to provide a home and care to those facing the last days of their living. For those who have someone, precious moments will live on, and for those who have no one, they will learn how precious they are.

Thank you for your support.

Gratefully,

Kristin Kildea
Executive Director

FOR
EVER

"I was watching Kristin and a volunteer lovingly tend to my husband Ed when he wasn't feeling well – placing a cool compress on his forehead, whispering encouraging words. I stepped out of the room when I found myself tearing up. My emotions spilled over for two reasons: seeing Ed doing poorly, and witnessing the kindnesses and genuine caring that the angels at Isaiah House offer to Ed and to all those they welcome to this home. We are so blessed to be here."

– Patrice

**Please join us by showing your love with a gift from your heart.
Thank you on behalf of all the people your kindness will touch deeply.**