

Alzheimer Society

YORK REGION

November 2018



Eileen Howatt and Jane Kennedy

You are changing lives. With a financial gift, thousands of families just like mine are able to lean on the Alzheimer Society of York Region to provide support, education and care to those living with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

Two years ago, my mom, Eileen Howatt, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. The disease has stolen my mom's memories. **It has stolen my sweet, caring mom's ability to play cards and entertain and changed her into person who can be confused and is prone to wandering.**

My strong, courageous and brave mother has been a caregiver her entire life, including looking after her children, two of whom passed away at a young age, and her husband and father, both of whom required caregiving before they, too, passed away.

Now my mom requires care. She needs reminders to brush her hair and her teeth and often takes multiple attempts to get dressed, something that frustrates her. I can see it on her face.

The Alzheimer Society of York Region's (AS York) Aurora DAY centre is my lifeline. Thanks to generous financial support from people such as you, my mom attends the DAY centre. With the caring staff and specialized programming, which includes art, music and exercise as well as sharing a meal with friends, my mom's mental and physical health is being positively impacted.

The DAY program is allowing us to keep my mom at home.

During this holiday season, I invite you to make a financial commitment to AS York so it can continue to provide the programs and services to help York Region families living with this disease. Visit bit.ly/ASYorkDonate to donate online.

Sincerely,

Jane Kennedy

P.S. – Your financial support today will help to ensure thousands of people who turn to AS York's DAY programs, caregiver education and support groups do not have to navigate this journey alone.

