

Lifetime Achievement Award ~ Honoring a Direct Caregiver 2024

Gary Payne Hamilton, Ontario



The Lifetime Achievement Award honouring a Direct Caregiver is presented to an individual well known at their organization as someone who lives the values of the organization and who makes the compassionate love of God visible to people at a vulnerable time in their lives.

This year's recipient is Gary Payne from St. Joseph's Health System in Hamilton. Gary, please come to the stage.

From the nomination:

"In 2008 Gary made a decision that changed many of our lives when he began 15 years of service caring for patients and staff. This nomination focuses on the role Gary played to transform spiritual care at St. Joseph's Health System, the character of Gary Payne and the inspiration he has provided to so many of us."

The nomination provides many examples of Gary's impact, perhaps best summarized by this quote: "Gary's heart is closely aligned with the mission of the Sisters. He embraced our belief in the *Dear Neighbour* and often reflected deeply on how we can make everyone feel welcome. He often personally took on the role of ally or champion of social justice, and empowered others to do so."