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Nonprofit Hospice Brings Live Music to Young Patient

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Bluffton, South Carolina – After working in the music industry for years, Hospice Care of the Lowcountry (HCL) was able to bring a special music performance to Josh, a young bed-bound hospice patient.

HCL case manager Shannon Rhodes, RN, went above and beyond to perform an act of kindness exclusively for Josh, a patient that touched her heart due to their close age. Prior to his end-of-life diagnosis, Josh worked alongside music industry giants such as Mariah Carey, Kanye West, and more.

Rhodes stated, “It was an easy decision for me to start planning to bring live music to Josh when he mentioned how much he missed live music.”

After much planning and organizing, five individuals — including local musician Jarrod White — joined together for a private concert inside Josh’s room.

“Walking into the room, I was shocked. As a young professional you associate hospice to older people, but Josh was young and reminded me a lot of myself,” said White of his time performing for Josh and his family.

White played for nearly 30 minutes, pausing in between each song to interact with Josh. Josh even convinced White to play some of his original music. “I hadn’t played my original song, *Eyes*, in almost two years, and when I started to [sing the lyrics], the meaning was very different in this setting:

*“Tell me your secrets, your deepest
Promise I’ll keep it”*

The staff at HCL is consistently inspired by the organization’s first core value: Hospice care is not about dying — It’s about living. Rhodes relates this special moment with Josh back to the value, stating, “I wanted Josh to be able to enjoy just a few more good moments on this earth and music was his first love. Some people will say this is going above and beyond, but it’s truly just who we are as hospice nurses.”

The Final Wishes program at HCL was developed to help serve patients during the final days of their life. This program allows staff to come together as one and provide a personalized experience for a patient nearing the end-of-life and their family. To learn more about Hospice Care of the Lowcountry and the Final Wishes program, visit HCL online at www.hospicecarelc.org.

Hospice Care of the Lowcountry is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 hospice and palliative care organization serving Beaufort and Jasper counties since 1982. Its mission is to give comfort, honor, and dignity for end-of-life patients and their families through compassionate physical, emotional, and spiritual care, regardless of their financial circumstances.