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THE PULSE OF RICHMOND HOSPITAL

Joyful giving to improve health for us all

As the holidays draw closer and we gather with family and friends to celebrate, we reflect on all of the precious relationships we have in our lives. Being able to visit with loved ones and share in holiday traditions like exchanging gifts, we are reminded how good health truly is the most precious gift we can have. It's also a gift we can give. Each day we hear from patients and families who are grateful for life-saving care at Richmond Hospital and how the care they received serves as a powerful inspiration to give joyfully to help other patients and families so they too can continue to live healthy lives. I'd like to introduce you to someone who's name is familiar name in our community, Joe Mitchell. He recently received an Honorary Doctor of Philanthropy from Richmond Hospital Foundation for his donation over the years, and he shares his own personal story of how his life was saved and how he gives joyfully to Richmond Hospital Foundation to help improve the health of others:

My name is Joe Mitchell, and I'm the Chairman at Carter Auto Family GM. You might recognize the name of our auto dealerships throughout the Lower Mainland and perhaps even purchased a car at one yourself. I've been passionate about cars my entire life and I've been passionate about our community. In fact, I've lived in Richmond for more than 75 years—since I first moved to Sea Island in 1939— and my family and I have had many experiences where Richmond Hospital took wonderful care of us and exceeded our expectations.

In 2000, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. At the time, I was in a lot of pain and didn't know what steps I'd need to take to survive. The unknown was unsettling, and I felt at a loss when trying to comfort my wife, Jean, and the rest of my family. I looked to

Richmond Hospital because they were located right in my community, and I was so glad that I did.



The doctors at Richmond Hospital were not only professional but kind-hearted, taking the time to patiently explain treatments and procedures to me, and give me confidence in my survival.

If it weren't for Richmond Hospital, I wouldn't be here to tell my story today. And if it weren't for the treatment and successful surgery, I wouldn't have had the chance to see all my grandchildren grow up. The bond that I share with my grandchildren is truly something that I wouldn't give up for the world, because family is everything and each and every family member of ours is so precious. That's why it's so important for me to give.

Every year I think what a miracle that I'm able to celebrate another holiday with my children and grandchildren.

It's been several years since this life-changing event, but I always find myself reflecting during the holiday season, with family around. As we gather together, I know that each of our lives has been touched by the care we've received.

I truly am a believer in Richmond Hospital. Please join me in supporting patients and families in our community this holiday season, by giving today.