

Joe Mitchell's Story

As our calendars fill with parties and feasts to celebrate the holidays, it's a time to enjoy our families, and to reflect on our many blessings. Gratitude is something we reflect on most around the holidays and I'm truly grateful for the medical teams at Richmond Hospital. As you'll read, if it weren't for them, I wouldn't be here today to celebrate with family.

As Richmond grows and our population ages, Richmond Hospital sees more and more patients every day. Please give today so that they can continue providing the highest quality of health care right here in Richmond.

One of the biggest things that I'm personally grateful for is the compassion and care I've seen embodied by both the team at Richmond Hospital and the Richmond community. When you donate, you become a vital part of the life-saving work that the hospital does every day.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our community. Your gifts help Richmond Hospital save lives like mine.

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. You can provide a patient with the utmost confidence, too, by giving today.

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 and watch them all grow up. The bond that I share with my grandchildren is 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 to give.

As I've experienced firsthand, patients who come to Richmond Hospital can be assured that they will receive patient and family-centred care throughout their healthcare journey. Every year I think what a miracle that I'm able to celebrate another holiday with my children and grandchildren.



I hope you will join me in supporting patients and families in our community this holiday season, by giving today.

In 2005, I again found myself in the care of the skilled staff at Richmond Hospital. This time, I'd broken my hip. But I hardly had time to worry before the support of donors like you lifted me out of my trouble, enabling a speedy hip operation and resulting in a quicker recovery time than expected. And more recently I needed emergency care following a traumatic leg injury.

It's been several years since these life-changing events, but I always find myself reflecting during this time of year, with my family around. As we gather together for the holidays, I know that each of our lives has been touched by the care we've received from Richmond Hospital and donors like you.

I truly am a believer in Richmond Hospital and its Foundation. I hope that you and many of the people of Richmond will support the Richmond Hospital Foundation to help improve local patient care and support the experts who provide it. You only need the hospital once to realize how important it is to have it here in Richmond.

By sending in your gift today, you will be helping meet the most vital needs of their patients.

Richmond Hospital offers a wide range of health care services, including Emergency care – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, surgical services, cancer care, and state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging. The hospital goes above and beyond to provide our Richmond community with all of the life-saving services we could possibly need to improve patient care programs.

It's up to you and me to help care for our loved ones, our colleagues and our neighbours. It's more urgent now than ever that Richmond Hospital is prepared for anything so that they can continue providing care whenever it's needed—whether it's during the holidays or any other time of the year.

You can donate by returning the enclosed form, by phone at 604-244-5252, or by visiting the Foundation's website at richmondhospitalfoundation.com. Please rush in your gift this holiday season!

My sincerest thanks,

Joe Mitchell

Joe Mitchell

Honorary Doctor of Philanthropy at Richmond Hospital Foundation

P.S. Please give generously this holiday season and enable more families throughout Richmond to celebrate the holidays together!

