



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Hope Hospice Committed to Ensuring Veterans Have Access to Quality End-of-Life Care** *November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month*

Hyannis, Mass. – Hope Hospice announced it has progressed to a Level Three partner of *We Honor Veterans*, a pioneering campaign developed by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Twenty five percent of those who die every year in the U.S. are veterans. The *We Honor Veterans* campaign provides tiered recognition to organizations that demonstrate a systematic commitment to improving care for veterans.

Hope Hospice provided over 50 pinning ceremonies to veterans in their care so far this year and cared for almost 300 veterans throughout their service area. Pinning ceremonies acknowledge the military service and sacrifices made by the veteran and their family. The ceremony gives an opportunity for each veteran to share part of their story. By doing so, a sense of meaning and purpose can be gained by the veteran. By pairing veteran volunteers with hospice patients who also have military experience, the veteran volunteers have the unique ability to relate and connect with each patient thereby creating an environment where life review and healing may occur.

November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month and hospices across the country are reaching out to raise awareness about the highest quality care for all people coping with life-limiting illness. This year's theme is "Know Your Options!" It stresses the importance of people thinking about the care they would and would not want before they find themselves in a medical crisis and helps them to understand the value in planning for the care they might need if they were to face a serious or life-limiting illness. One of the most frequent comments hospice providers hear from families is "why did we wait so long before calling hospice?"

"As our nation marks Veterans Day on November 11 and in conjunction with National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, Hope Hospice shares its commitment to increase veterans' access to compassionate, high quality hospice care for those who are facing serious and life-limiting illness," said Diana Franchitto, HopeHealth's CEO & president. "Over the years, we have worked with the area's VA Medical Centers and other veterans' service organizations to provide

hospice care to local veterans. By being a Level Three partner, we are better able to guide veterans and their families for the best quality of life they can have.”

To learn more about *We Honor Veterans*, please visit [WeHonorVeterans.org](http://WeHonorVeterans.org).

About [HopeHealth](#)

HopeHealth has been enhancing the quality of life for people experiencing serious illness and loss for more than 35 years. Today, the non-profit organization delivers a wide range of services for people with serious illness and their families. The HopeHealth family of services in Massachusetts includes: Hope Hospice; Hope Care for Kids; Hope Dementia & Alzheimer’s Services and Hope Academy. The Massachusetts Pain Initiative is an affiliate of the organization. Learn more by calling (800) 642-2423 or visiting [HopeHealthCo.org](http://HopeHealthCo.org).

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