



*Celebrating Life Every Day*

**PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PETERSBURG – Crater Community Hospice is Celebrating 25 Years of Service & Dedication!**

Linda J. Maitland has served as the Office Manager of Crater Community Hospice, Inc. for the past 25 years, since May 1995. Prior to that time, she worked in bookkeeping and management positions for various hospitality and manufacturing companies in the Tri-Cities. She was appointed as Acting CEO in May of 2020 after the passing of our CEO and friend, Tracy Taliaferro.

“I was the first employee hired by Sparky Clark to work at Crater Community Hospice when we were “first born.” We weren’t even licensed at that point and we had no policies, procedures or bookkeeping system in place. We literally built this organization from scratch. My very first day on the job I went shopping for start-up office supplies. Then we hired a Volunteer Coordinator, a Social Worker, and finally a Nurse. It was a long process from May until August when we were finally issued a license to admit our first patient.”

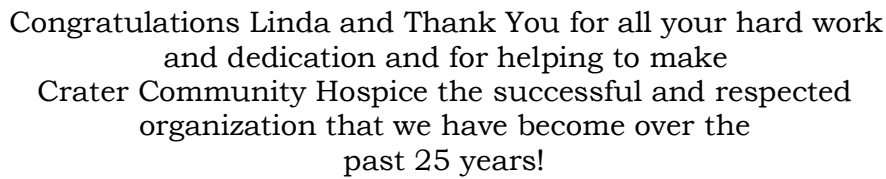
“Back in the early days, things were often very tight financially and sometimes we couldn’t make payroll, even with only 5 employees. The two hospitals kept us going until we could stand on our own and look at us today! All thanks to this community we serve and to the staff and volunteers who work so hard to keep us growing and Celebrating Life Every Day!”

*– Linda Maitland*

Brenda Mitchell was the CEO for Crater Community Hospice for 20 years before she retired in 2017 and fondly remembers working with Linda, “Linda Maitland was the Office Manager when I was hired in 1997 and she quickly became my “go to person” as I became acclimated to Crater Community Hospice and the community. This introduction morphed into a 20-year working relationship and a lifetime friendship. Over the years we experienced many events together, both personal and professional and no matter the situation, Linda has always been the most supportive, loyal, and trustworthy person anyone could ask for in a friend and employee. Linda is an exemplary employee and I am privileged to have worked with her for 20 years and I am blessed to have her as my friend.”

“Linda’s awareness of “*the right thing to do*” never wavers. Linda has truly been the backbone of Crater Community Hospice for 25 years. She doesn’t enjoy personal recognition or special attention; she is rewarded by the special recognitions Crater Community Hospice has achieved over the years and there have been many!”

*– Brenda Mitchell, retired CEO*



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