

“Because Speare has always supported us.”

For Russell and Ardelle Gilman, life-long residents of Thornton, their appreciation for the care they, and the community, receives is the reason they have chosen to donate to Speare Memorial Hospital. They are deeply grateful to have Speare Memorial Hospital close by, and have used the hospital’s services many times over the years, noting, “Someone was always there with welcome arms.”

Mr. and Mrs. Gilman’s relationship with, and appreciation for, SMH began long before the recent expansion and renovations project. In fact, two of their five children were born at Speare when the hospital was located on Route 3 on the Campton/ Plymouth town line. Their third child was one of the first born in the “new” hospital, which they noted they timed carefully. Their fourth was also a Speare baby but their fifth arrived on the way to Speare, just over the Blair Covered Bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Gilman remembered that Dr. Olmstead didn’t charge them for the delivery, as the couple pulled in with the newborn in their arms. Mrs. Gilman smiles warmly as she recalls the physician charges for her five day maternity stay cost were just \$75.

Times and technology may have changed, but quality, compassionate care, delivered with a personal touch, remain the cornerstones of patient care at Speare Memorial Hospital. We are truly grateful for people like the Gilman’s who value our investment in medical care and technology made over the years. Their generosity demonstrates their desire to support the entire community, and we are enormously thankful.