

## **Joyce Buggins' Story**

Walter Buggins was married to Jean for 43 years when he died of Lung cancer in 1996. Contributing to the Tree of Light each year helps Joyce feel he is not forgotten, especially as the lights are always shining until the new year.

Walter was an inpatient at the Hospice for just two weeks, but had help from the community nurse team every Thursday at his home. Each week he made a special effort to do something he could brag to Irene, his nurse about. His favourite was a mini pub crawl ending in Brindley Place but the highlight of the week would be telling Irene how he got on.

Joyce still remembers the staff and how brilliant they were. Even when she visited another friend on the ward ten years later, some staff still remembered her from when Walter stayed with us – she must have made a big impression!

“The staff were brilliant – I have nothing but praise for them. I think Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice is a great place and we are lucky to have it so close”