

“When your loved one can no longer express their life’s needs, or reminisce about the family, or the life you’ve spent together, what can you do? You’ve pushed a wheelchair through the garden of a long-term care center time and time again where your loved one now resides. You’ve read short stories aloud or watched old television shows until they no longer hold any interest. You’ve looked at the photographs of flowers and beautiful destinations in magazines until the pictures have become too familiar and a hundred other things. What can you do that truly makes life better? A new bottle of lotion or cologne? A gown? A sweater?

What if you discover that very specific music holding personal meaning to your loved one seems to enable them to be transported through time? Within their own mind, they seem to leave their surroundings, people and things that are unfamiliar and go to a safe place—a place they’ve been to before—a place they know and love that holds specific memories and the emotions they felt when those memories were created. What if they can relive them again and again?

What if you discover that within a few seconds your loved one seems joyful? They even begin to hum or sing lyrics to songs you didn’t know they could remember. For the past five years, you haven’t been sure they even recognize who you are—much less that they can sing songs they once sang to you when you were a child. And they know every lyric to the songs!

And, what if you discover that your loved one can express themselves and communicate in a whole new way through their drawings and paintings? Maybe they’ve never created art before. That doesn’t matter. Their art can serve as a reflection of their memories, thoughts, and feelings. They can regain or remain connected, grounded, known and valued, feel a sense of accomplishment, and stimulate their brain—all through their art.

Want to join me in making a difference? At Thriving4Life, we help bring the gifts of personalized art and music to individuals in need. Help us bring even a moment of joy to those who have lost their ability to connect with their loved ones, those with mental, cognitive, developmental or physical challenges, or those struggling with isolation.

A \$10 donation makes a difference, especially when multiplied by \$10 from everyone you know whose life has been impacted by dementia or other challenges or impairments—because the arts are for everyone! Please donate now...and tell as many friends as you can.”

Thank you!

Deb Ferris

Founder & CEO
Thriving4Life, Inc.