



Global pandemic? Local business owners kept caring.

John and Sharon Koncan

Jan Nyquist

Bessie and Dino Georgas

Brandon & Cathy McMurray

Our featured local business owners, when combined, have the capacity to feed us, keep us afloat, help us smile with confidence and ensure we always have access to the best quality bling. They are all very different, yet they have one thing in common: their unwavering support for Huntsville Hospital and Business Cares. John and Sharon Koncan own Sunrise Centre Dental, Jan Nyquist owns Pipefusion Services and Nydock Floating Docks, Bessie and Dino Georgas owned the Family Restaurant and Cathy and the McMurray Family are the owners of The Hunt House, Fine & Custom Jewellers.

What brought you to Huntsville?

Jan: I moved from Finland to Huntsville in 1968 when I was 13. It was my 13th move, third country. We were looking for a place to establish roots and be part of a community. It was no contest:

Huntsville was a natural fit in every way. And that was 54 years ago.

Sharon & John: We've been in Huntsville since 1987. Everything is here: culture, sports, amenities and the hospital. It's a wonderful place to raise a family. Huntsville is home. Now it is interesting to watch as the friends of my children trickle back

after moving away years ago. That says a lot about Huntsville.

Cathy: Before we moved here for good (Cathy was born here), we traveled for many years in our other jobs; it was time to slow down. The permanent move here 12 years ago changed our lives for the better.

Bessie: Dino came here 50 years ago and I followed five years later. Being from Greece, the winters took a little to get used to. But we're still here today, retired and we've never looked back.

Why did you commit to Business Cares?

Sharon & John: It was great to see local business owners come together in a common cause. Business Cares was focused and well-planned; there was a clear purpose to getting involved and that appealed to us.

Bessie: We'd always supported the hospital and many local charities. Business Cares allowed us to plan and was easier to manage as a small business. We were able to make a difference.

Cathy: This is one cause that touches every life here. Everyone at one time or another will need the hospital.

Jan: Business Cares captures the spirit of giving in Huntsville. It captures the spirit of our organization. We recognized instantly how valuable and important this cause was.

Why renew?

Cathy: The growth of Huntsville means we need to keep expanding and renewing our capacity every year in many areas. The hospital is at the top of that list. When we were asked to renew our

five year commitment, that rationale made the decision easy.

Sharon & John: The need hasn't changed since we first signed on five years ago. A well-equipped, up-to-date local hospital is what we're investing in.

Jan: It would literally be impossible for me to not offer my support a second time. Business Cares has built incredible momentum and the number of local companies now involved is amazing. We're doing this again because it is simply the right thing to do. It's a network of people who make things happen here. I wanted to remain a part of that.

Bessie: Huntsville is a small town. That makes our hospital even more important than it might be elsewhere. This hasn't changed. That's why we renewed.

The COVID Effect

Cathy: Imagine living through a pandemic without a hospital close by. Every gift we give helps our hospital succeed here and remain prepared for whatever comes.

Sharon & John: Our healthcare team never backed away from their commitment to us. That's been very clear through COVID. We will never back away from our commitment to them.

Bessie: COVID shows you how vulnerable we all are, regardless of where we come from or where we work.

Jan: As people bought more cottages or converted cottages into permanent homes, we got very busy. We needed our people to be their best. Having a hospital close by helps us attract great people and that was proven again over the last two years.

Last Word...

Sharon & John: Huntsville Hospital is the hub for all local healthcare. Having it here enables a better, safer community. Keeping our hospital ready for what comes is everyone's responsibility.

Cathy: We're all going to need the hospital at one time or another. But it's more than that for business owners. We're also responsible for our staff, for our customers and the wellness of the entire community. That's why you should join Business Cares.

Bessie: Even though we've retired from the day-to-day, we're still a part of the business community here. You keep giving to ensure that our hospital is always where it is needed most.

Jan: If you are a donor now, renew your commitment when you are asked. If you're not a donor but have a business, contact the Foundation today and join Business Cares. Join us. What we can achieve together is invaluable. We would not be in this position without them. Nor would any other local business owner.