

In 2019, only last year, but seemed a lifetime ago, we celebrated 60 years of Peppermint Ridge. From the original dream of Bob and Mary Jeffery, to have a home and services to aid their son Roger, and other young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, Peppermint Ridge was created and 60 years later continues to thrive. Throughout the decades, more than 350 children and adults have blossomed as a result of the love and guidance from caring staff. Hundreds of family members have found peace, knowing that their loved one is happy and safe living in a community of peers. Most importantly, the Jeffery family, and those that followed, helped chip away at the barriers created by the fear of and misconceptions about people with developmental disabilities. It was Mary and Bob's mission to make it possible for people with intellectual disabilities to take part in the world around them and have access to those things that brought them joy.

In 2019, 60 years later, the Ridgers continued to be part of the world and pursue an array of interests which include horseback riding, fitness, swimming, art, professional sporting events and more. So often people who are different are at risk of being marginalized and even forgotten. At Peppermint Ridge, everyone is appreciated for their individuality and are accepted for who they are.

There is strength in numbers and Peppermint Ridge is blessed to have donors, volunteers and dedicated staff who give of themselves to support the men and women who live at The Ridge. A total of 507 donors made 1,466 contributions for a total of \$830,663. 1,066 volunteers contributed 16,841 hours to spend time with Ridgers, or beautify the grounds, or decorate a bedroom and light up the face of a Ridger. It is because of the generosity of family members, community members, foundations and government entities that Peppermint Ridge is able to continue to the mission launched so many years ago. A parent's love fueled the creation of the Ridge and the compassion of many has propelled it forward.

As we moved from 2019 to 2020, we have been faced with some challenges with the pandemic, and priorities have shifted for the moment. But, even though the world is not as accessible as it has been for the time being, we continue to serve the Ridgers, ensuring their health and happiness daily. We know that there is an end in sight, and we look forward to that time as well as the next 60 years. Our commitment to each individual Ridger and the vision held by Bob and Mary will always be at the heart of what we do.

Thank you for all your care and support in 2019, helping us celebrate of Mary and Bob Jeffrey and their vision that brought about Peppermint Ridge. We are connected, all of us, and together we will battle COVID-19 and come out victorious on the other side.