

A Gift Celebrating Adventure, Friendship and Compassion

Abby Crumpacker Vieira was a world-famous hugger.

With her husband, Robert, and their three children, she sailed the world with Semester at Sea. Students studying aboard the ship cherished Abby. They called her “The Queen.”

In 2021, Abby passed away from cancer. One year later, family friends Dr. Bob and Margaret Basta made a gift to OHSU in her honor, designated toward the Department of Patient and Family Services program at the Knight Cancer Institute.

Abby and Robert met the Bastas in 2001 on a Semester at Sea voyage. They shared an OHSU bond: Robert was OHSU vice president emeritus, and Bob earned his medical degree from OHSU in 1971.

“Abby was an amazing, engaging and welcoming person. She didn’t care where you were from, what school you went to, or how much money you made. She was just interested in you. She was a strong advocate for the students, and a very special person for everyone on the voyage,” remembered Bob.

Abby and Robert took their last Semester of Sea voyage in 2018, when Abby was being treated at the Knight Cancer Institute by Zahi Mitri, M.D. A plan was formulated to make travel as comfortable as possible.

“Dr. Mitri worked with the physician on board to create a chemotherapy regimen that allowed Abby

to sail around the world for three months,” said Robert. “Dr. Mitri meant a lot to Abby. I’m grateful for his help. It was our best voyage ever.”

Honoring Abby’s Memory

The Bastas wanted to do something that would pay tribute to how important Abby was in their lives.

They decided to use a qualified charitable distribution from their IRA to make a gift in her name.

They directed their generosity to a program that reflected Abby’s warm, supportive nature. The Department of Patient and Family Services at the Knight provides services that ease the physical and emotional strain of being treated for cancer.

Supporting Families in Need

“I was trained to help people as a physician. But over my career I could also see that the real difficulties were often social — people struggling to afford medications or arrange transportation. Patient and Family Services helps ease that stress,” said Bob.

Abby spent her life treating people with compassion and love. Now, through the Bastas’ gift, her spirit of caring will live on.



Abby Crumpacker Vieira

Let's Figure it Out Together

When people, places or things are important to you, you want to protect them. It's our honor to partner with OHSU alumni and friends to create future gifts that will support cutting-edge resources and a dynamic learning community. Their gifts will help future students succeed and provide invaluable resources that future patients will benefit from.

One of the best parts of being on OHSU's Planned Giving team is getting to help people like alumnus Dr. Bob Basta and his wife, Margaret, create a gift that is about much more than a number. Their gift honors Abby's memory in a very tangible way. Abby's values will live on through the positive effect the Bastas' gift will make for future patients and families of patients.

How Will You Inspire the Next Generation?

Each person's individual circumstances play an important role in determining the best way to make their philanthropic goals a reality. Whether you want to have an immediate impact, create a legacy gift for after your lifetime or ensure a mixture of both, **we would love to help you get started today.**

These Two Simple Questions Can Start the Conversation:

- 1 Is there a specific area you'd like to impact?

For example:

- Scholarships for deserving OHSU students
- Recruiting and retaining world-class faculty
- Patient-centered programs
- Research initiatives

- 2 Would you like your gift to be used now, after your lifetime or be a combination of both?



Our Gift to You

OHSU's FREE guide *Create a Lasting Tribute for Someone You Love or Admire* outlines three essential ways you can make a difference while paying tribute to someone important in your life. Request this helpful tool by returning the enclosed reply card today.



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