



Open up a life.

## Celebrating a Life and a Legacy *Jim Harris*



More than 20 years ago Jim Harris became a volunteer tutor for Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council. He helped numerous students improve their reading and math skills so that they could go on to get a better job, help their children in school, or earn a college degree.

After several years of tutoring, Jim became a member of our staff. As an Area Coordinator, he encouraged and inspired the students and tutors in his care to persevere and succeed. He made a profound impact on thousands of lives.

In 1997, when Jim retired from GPLC, he wrote in his retirement letter, "I have developed the warmest affection for the organization - what it does and how it does

it. The staff has a reputation for being magnificent in that there is a caring atmosphere for each other, the clients and volunteers." Jim continued to volunteer as a tutor after his retirement, teaching not only reading and math students but also helping newcomers to our country learn the English language.

In February 2007, GPLC was saddened to hear of the passing of this kind and generous man. Several weeks later, GPLC learned just how important our students, volunteers and staff were to Jim. He chose to leave the proceeds from three annuity accounts to GPLC, resulting in the largest bequest our agency has received to date.

Jim's generosity ensures that our students will continue to receive the highest quality instruction and support as they pursue their goals. We are deeply grateful for all that he has shared with our agency and our students.