



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Saying it with Flowers**

#### ***Former CPDMH Patient creates patio and garden as a thank you***

**October 13, 2004** – A beautiful patio and garden area, created by a former Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) patient, was unveiled today as a tribute to the care and compassion he received in his recovery from a near-fatal accident.

In July of 2001, Doug Reid was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident on Highway 511. Airlifted to the Ottawa Hospital's Civic Campus, Doug spent three weeks in the hospital's Intensive Care Unit before transferring to the CPDMH for further recuperation. With family and friends close at hand, and with the encouragement and support he received from the caring physicians and staff at the CPDMH, Doug continued his recovery and returned to his business, Reid Landscaping, in the spring of 2002.

Doug decided he needed to thank the physicians, staff and volunteers at the hospital who aided in his recovery, so last fall he began a true labour of love. With the help of his staff and volunteers—and contributions one of his suppliers, PERMACON—Doug began to create a beautiful patio and garden area for the enjoyment of staff and patients alike. Today—with the last stones laid and the last bushes planted—marked the official opening of the serene sitting area.

Mike Gagné, CEO of the CPDMH, notes that the patio area has meant a great deal to the staff.

“It’s a lovely spot for our staff to sit and relax. Doug has given the CPDMH such a unique and beautiful thank you in creating this patio and garden.”

Angie Snedden, an Emergency Department nurse at the hospital, was a good friend of Doug’s long before his accident, and she notes how much he valued his time at the CPDMH:

“It was wonderful for all of us to have Doug in our care during his rehab. When he came back to Carleton Place, it was just so much easier for all his family and friends to pop in to see him and spend time with him. He really appreciated that.”

A few weeks ago, Angie volunteered her green thumb and a few hours of her time to help complete the project.

“It was the least I could do,” explains Angie. “So many of our staff members love to go out to enjoy their lunch surrounded by the flowers and bushes. The patio provides a wonderful feeling of solitude in an otherwise busy day.”

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