

WISH OF A LIFETIME

FROM **AARP**





WHAT WE DO

We grant life-changing experiential wishes for older adults at risk for social isolation that:

- strengthen social connections
- celebrate older adults for their accomplishments
- share their stories to empower people to choose how they live as they age

OUR ORIGIN STORY



2008

Founded by Jeremy Bloom in Denver, Colorado as a 501c3 nonprofit

2019

2000 wishes granted across the United States

2020

AARP joins forces with Wish of a Lifetime to help more older adults achieve long held goals

2023

2,500th Wish Granted!

THE POWER OF WISHES

Granting a wish is a simple gesture, but the effect is extraordinary.

With each wish granted, older adults across the country are reconnected with the communities, passions, and people they love, helping them to live more vibrant and purposeful lives.

“She started walking more when her wish was approved. We've noticed her regain her strength, and she is getting out and socializing again for the first time in years.” - Kelly, daughter





A wish fulfilled can change a life, but a story can change the world.

“Today proves that if you believe in something and stay at it, you’ll finally get the recognition,” said Harvey after the ceremony. “I can finally close the pages on this chapter and say, ‘mission accomplished.’”

- Col. James Harvey (98), Tuskegee Airman. Receive recognition on behalf of the 332nd Fighter Group for their Win of the Inaugural Weapons Meet, 1949



GUIDELINES FOR QUALIFICATION

- Minimum age of 65
- Reside in the United States and its territories
- Unable to fulfill the wish on your own
- Capable of experiencing the wish
- Able to obtain approval from a doctor, if necessary



Commemorating Service

Highlights the stories of service members, outstanding volunteers, and those who have made sacrifices on behalf of others.



Reconnecting Loved Ones

Recognizes the tremendous importance and impact of family bonds and creating memories with those close to our hearts.



Fulfilling Lifelong Dreams

Celebrates long held desires of doing something new, breaking through a comfort zone, or realizing a childhood dream.



Renewing & Celebrating Passions

Engages recipients in the activities, experiences, and interests that used to be a source of purpose and enjoyment.

The Larsons visit the Grand Canyon



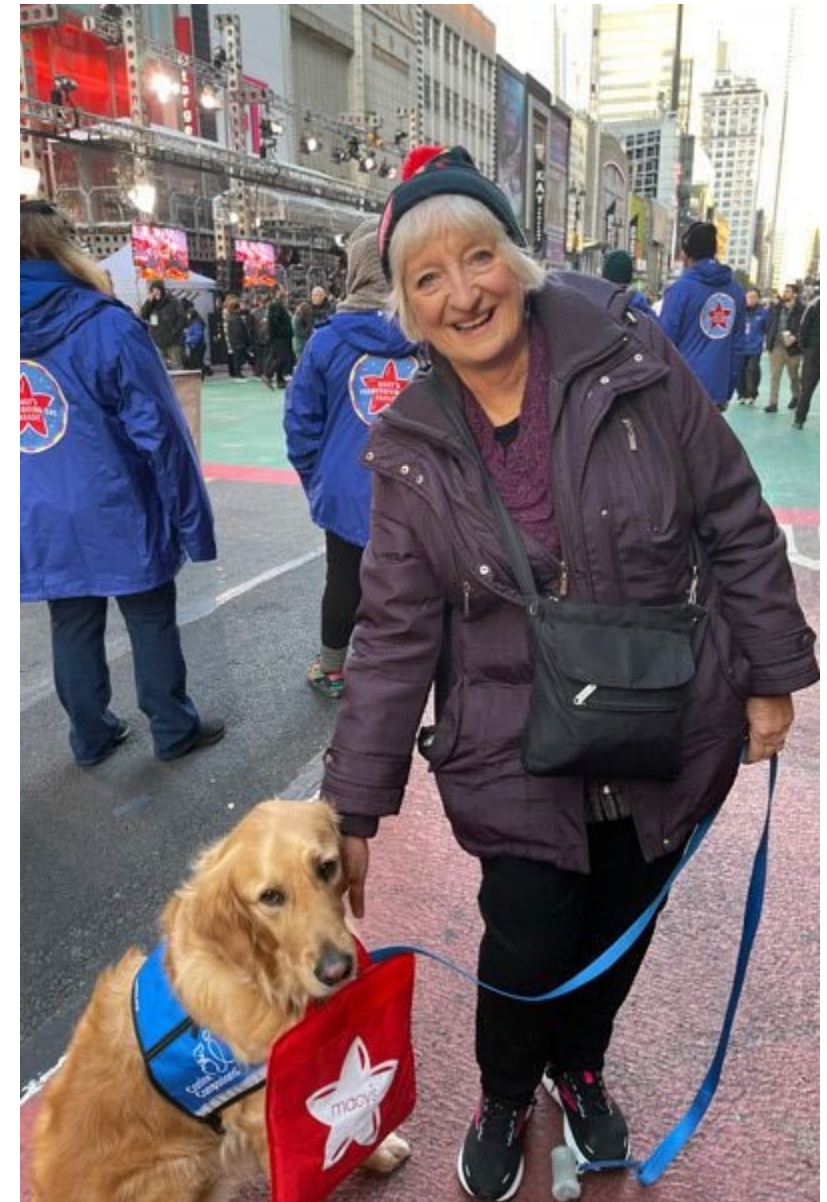
Robbie was a caregiver for his wife for several years.



He had a passion for electric cars and went to Orion Assembly, part of General Motors, where electric cars are being built with the latest technology.



Cathy and her family went to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade





Robert went to a Saints Baseball Game





Ida, a Holocaust survivor and primary caregiver for her husband, reunited with her sister, Betty, in Israel

Lance Visits Disney World

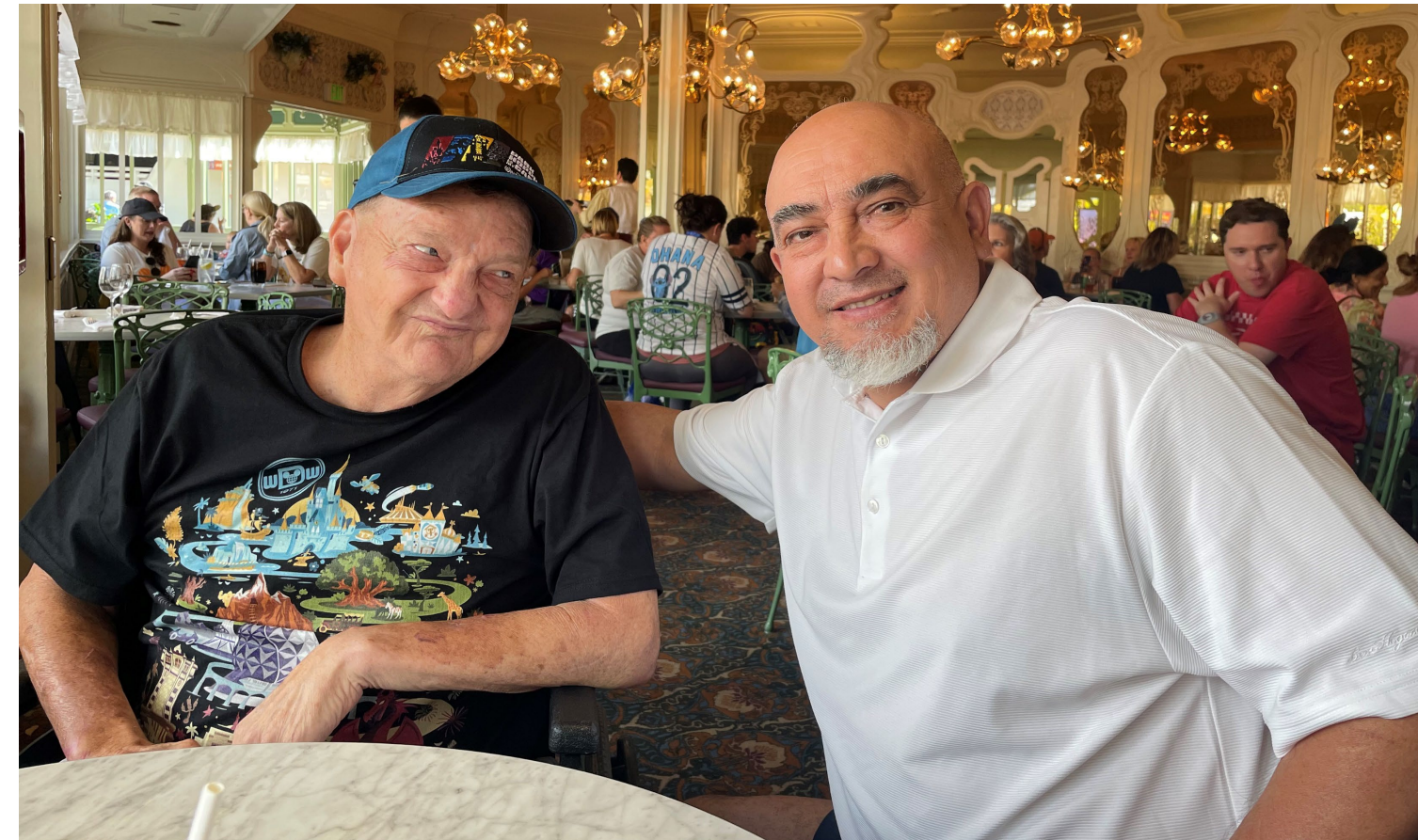
70, living with developmental disabilities and now facing cancer

"It was fabulous! He was in seventh heaven just doing what he wanted to do"

Lance's brother Mark

"Tell 'em I was happy!"

Lance



Guadalupe Celebrates his Mexican Heritage



Lost his wife a couple years ago to cancer and diabetes



Jan
returned
to Rocky
Mountain
National
Park



- Benny got to ride a horse and visit the beach
- Alice flew to New Mexico for a hot air balloon ride
- Jerry rode in a helicopter
- John traveled West on the California Zephyr
- Cynthia had a spa day
- Phyllis traveled to Tennessee to visit her grandchildren

Experiential wishes are for anyone age 65 and older. Help us be intentional to also get the word out to underserved audiences who don't always hear about us!

Priority Underserved:

Alaskan/American Indian

Asian/Pacific Islander

Hispanic Latino

LGBTQ

Low income

Adults w/ Developmental Disabilities





IF A WISH IS GRANTED, WE COVER

Airfare

Food

Rental Car

Hotel

Photographer

Passes/Tickets

Companion to join the experience

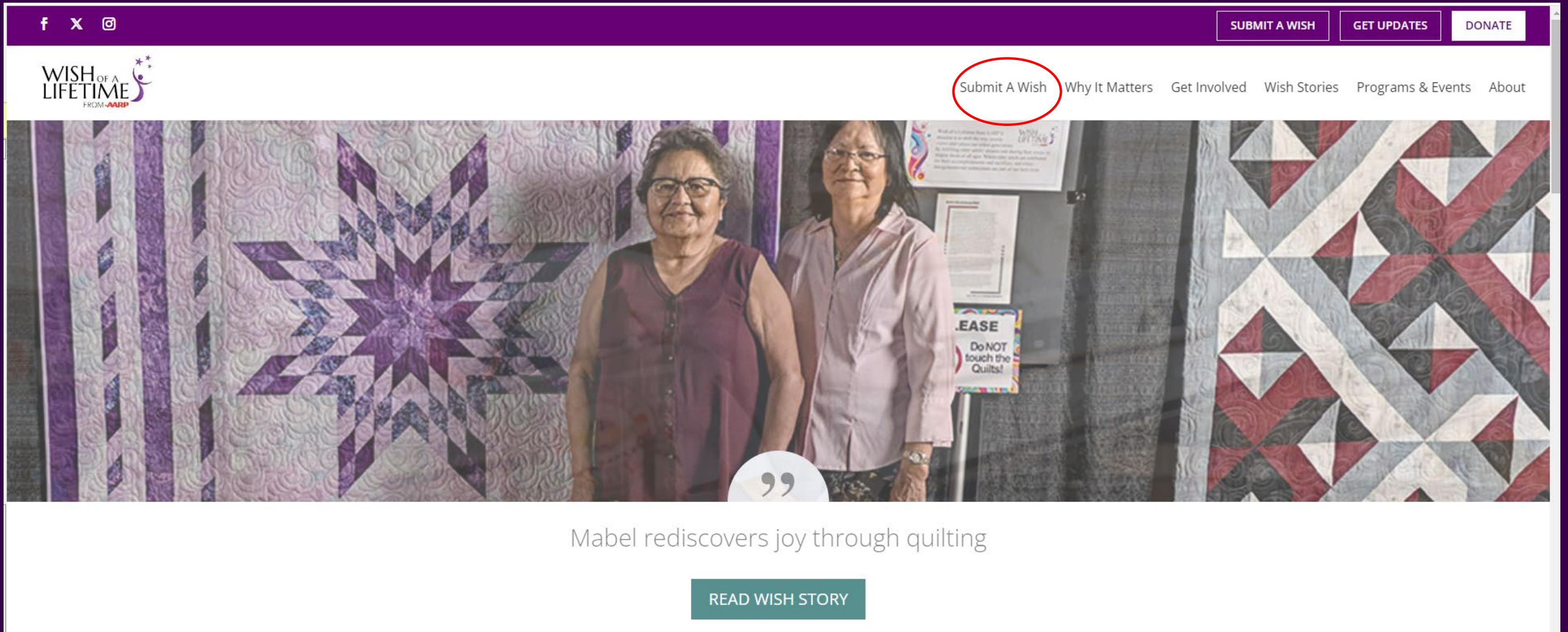
Care staff if needed

All other supporting expenses as needed.

Let Wish of a Lifetime be another tool in your toolbox!

SUBMIT A WISH

www.wishofalifetime.org



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the website. On the left, there are social media icons for Facebook, X, and Instagram. In the center is the logo for 'WISH OF A LIFETIME FROM AARP'. On the right, there are three buttons: 'SUBMIT A WISH', 'GET UPDATES', and 'DONATE'. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with the following items: 'Submit A Wish' (circled in red), 'Why It Matters', 'Get Involved', 'Wish Stories', 'Programs & Events', and 'About'. The main content area features a photograph of two women standing in front of several quilts. A quote icon is overlaid on the bottom left of the photo. Below the photo is the text 'Mabel rediscovers joy through quilting' and a green button labeled 'READ WISH STORY'.



SUBMIT A WISH

GET UPDATES

DONATE



- Submit A Wish
- Why It Matters
- Get Involved
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- Programs & Events
- About



Mabel rediscovers joy through quilting

READ WISH STORY

GET INVOLVED

www.wishofalifetime.org



Wish Discovery

Help find and submit life-changing wishes in your community.

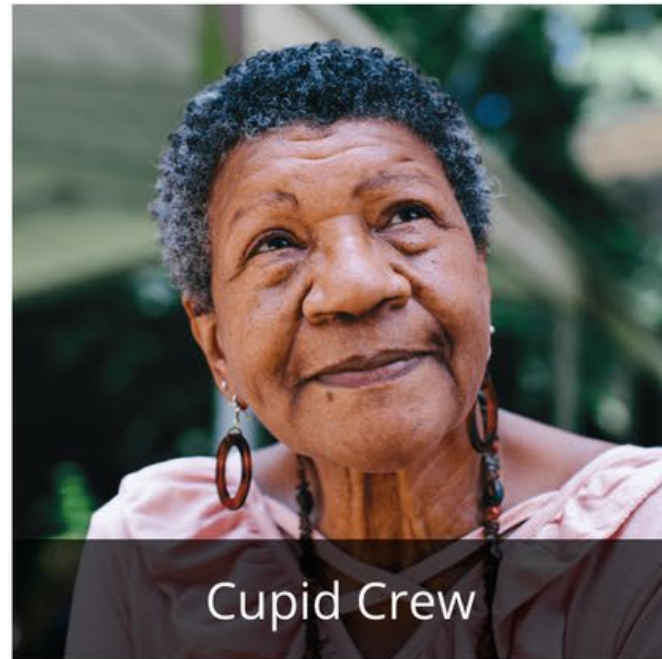
APPLY



Wish Granting

Be our boots on the ground to help a wish come true in your community.

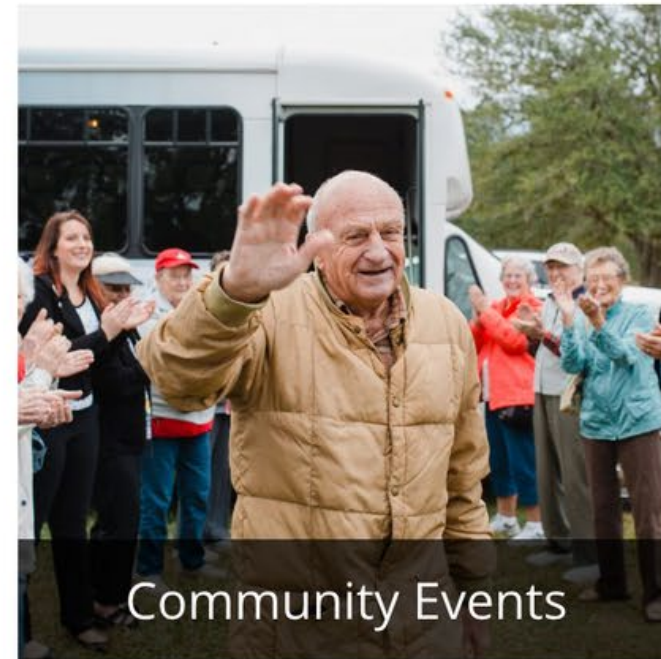
APPLY



Cupid Crew

Deliver roses and cards to older adults on Valentine's Day.

APPLY



Community Events

Participate in local Wish of a Lifetime activities led by our Field team.

APPLY



Postcard Program

Send a handwritten note to a wish recipient.

APPLY



**Please email your
Name
Email
Phone
Address
City, State, Zip**

cheryl@wishofalifetime.org

Cheryl Peterson
Field Manager – Midwest

615.726.5130
612.325.8730 cell

www.wishofalifetime.org