



BPCAF

THE BOB PERKS CANCER ASSISTANCE FUND



Jerome Bowersox with his wife, Elizabeth

How the Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund Helps Local Families

While Jerome Bowersox was in the hospital for congestive heart failure last year, doctors discovered that something else was wrong with him. Several tests and a biopsy later confirmed that he had Hodgkin's lymphoma.

The Warriors Mark resident had recently retired, and, due to a fixed income, the news of his illness and the soon-to-be mounting medical bills were "devastating." Right after starting chemotherapy, he found out about the Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund through one of the nurses at Geisinger. He applied right away and was approved for financial assistance soon after.

"It's nice to know that there are foundations out there that help when something comes along unexpectedly and they're willing to provide some financial assistance to get you over the hump," Bowersox, 64, says. "Unexpected expenses occur during treatment, and the extra financial help really came at a good time."

He and his wife, Elizabeth, a breast-cancer survivor, have two grown children, Todd and Amy, and two grandsons. In his free time, Bowersox is an amateur radio operator, a model railroad train set buff, and enjoys working with electronics.

He says he is about halfway through cancer treatments and, with Hodgkin's being one of the more curable types of cancer, is optimistic that he'll fully recover.

"There are so many things going through your mind when you're sick, so having financial assistance and knowing that I don't have to worry and that I have help to get through the rough times, that's one of the reasons I'm so grateful," he says. "It's nice to know that there are people out there who will help you and understand you without asking a lot of questions."

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