



**BECAUSE
YOU
CARE**

No family is an island, especially when a child has a disability.



Meet Jack, a man who lives a life full of music, prayer, art, and adventure despite disability. Born in West Palm Beach, FL in 1955, Jack is the second of eight children and thrives on the love of his family and the L'Arche community.

Jack attended a school for special needs, graduated high school in 1977, and went to work at a local habilitation center where he learned valuable skills and developed **a love for gardening**. Following the death of his father in 1989, Jack chose to move into a group home in south Florida.

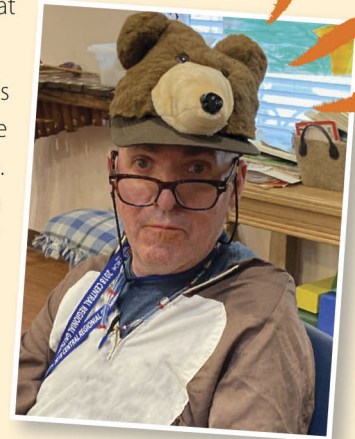
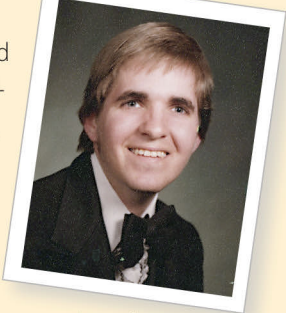
Jack is one who has **always** enjoyed being on the go — traveling with family, participating in Special Olympics since he was a young boy, and engaging his passion for sports, especially swimming and bowling (he's an excellent bowler!).

Communicating primarily through sign language, Jack further expresses himself

through hobbies like jigsaw puzzles, art, and gardening. His regard for music and spirituality is evident in his classic music collection, love for Christmas carols, participation as an altar server, and attendance at Faith and Sharing Retreats for more than 25 years.

Jack's journey to L'Arche began long before he moved to Jacksonville. Family pilgrimages to Lourdes and Our Lady of Knock included visits to nearby L'Arche communities in France and Ireland. He was excited to move to Jacksonville in 2014 and now happily resides at Peace House with daily painting and clay experiences at the Rainbow Workshop.

A beloved bear costume made by his mother 30 years ago has become Jack's signature Halloween disguise. He has worn it **every year** earning him the affectionate nickname "Jack Bear." Jack loves balloons and celebrations; **his joyful spirit is contagious!**



Triumphs, great and small, happen every day at L'Arche: making magic happen with a paintbrush, feeling comfort from the touch of cool clay, or being an altar server. Just as Jack experienced **life-changing victories** as a result of his family's care early in his life, the core members flourish thanks to daily encouragement and support from their L'Arche family! *We are Family Fund* donors are cherished members of our extended family.

We rely on families of core members for essential support, but cannot function without the generosity of **friends like you**. We are most grateful to everyone who supports our mission through our annual *We Are Family Fund* appeal. People who know and appreciate L'Arche contribute all-important funds for the community.

We work hard to use these gifts wisely, in accordance with our model of simple living. But with costs rising as core members age, **meeting our budget is a more difficult struggle at this time**. Please give generously so that together, we can continue to be champions for people whose gifts are **daily reminders of God's goodness**.

2 Easy Ways to Give

Online: larchejacksonville.org/support-us/

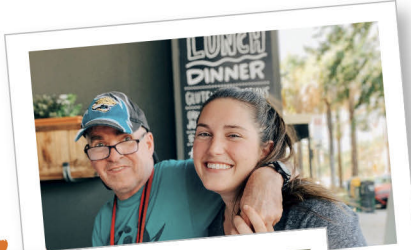
By Mail: L'Arche Jacksonville, 700 Arlington Rd. N., Jacksonville, FL 32211



WE ARE
Family

FUND

All gifts are tax-deductible.
L'Arche Jacksonville is a 501(c)(3)
non-profit charitable organization.



The L'Arche mission is dedicated to ensuring that core members receive the respect and support they need to live meaningful and fulfilling lives.



About L'Arche Jacksonville:

Founded as Harbor House in 1985 by the Diocese of St. Augustine Ministry for Disabilities, Harbor House joined the Federation of L'Arche in 1992; L'Arche Jacksonville is the only L'Arche community in Florida.

Photos:

Cover: Jack is known for his love of animals

Inside: Favorites from Jack's family scrapbook

Back: Top: Jack shares life at L'Arche with great spirit, care, and joy;
Bottom: Bold Bean coffee break with Peace House friends Viva & Jeff

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Nancy Smith, Clarity Graphic Design

Join us:

Opportunities abound for you to get involved.

Visit larchejacksonville.org or call 904-721-5992 for details.



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