

COLLINS BARROW – GIVING BACK FOR OVER 20 YEARS



(left to right: Gerri Layman - Tracey's Mom, CTV personality Jeff Hopper, and Tracey Pagé)

Tracey Pagé was at a meeting at Collins Barrow Ottawa LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants back in the mid-1990's discussing how their firm could best give back to the community. She had been impressed with support provided to her family by the Ottawa Alzheimer Society when her grandfather developed Alzheimer's disease.

Tracey knew the Alzheimer Society needed funds. Her associates were quick to jump on board and they resolved that the best plan was to establish an annual fundraising event. Between staff at Collins Barrow, the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County, and other local businesses, the annual Alzheimer Society fundraising Walk was born.

Partners and principals at the Collins Barrow were quick to step forward to help with registration. It was a great fit. Who better to deal with accepting donations than a team of accountants?

What was originally the Walk for Memories is now the Walk for Alzheimer's. Collins Barrow continues its tradition of involvement with the event as lead sponsor to this day. From junior staff members up to senior partners, many hands pitch in - sometimes even after retirement!

Tracey and her extended family have been there every year. "We were worried the year of the ice storm in 1998," Tracey says. But not even that natural disaster kept people away.

"My kids have been in the Walk since they were in utero!" she continues. "I was doing so much running around as a volunteer nine months pregnant with my first son, Robbie, that we were all sure he would be born on site!"

Having had a second occasion to appreciate the Alzheimer Society when her own father was diagnosed with a type of dementia, Tracey points out that aging and its pitfalls are something we all have to deal with. "We, or someone we know, will be affected by dementia eventually in one way or another," she says. "So it's important to support in any way we can."

The Walk for Alzheimer's takes place at Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa on Saturday, May 13 2017 (Mother's Day weekend). If your life has been touched by dementia, Collins Barrow invites you to get involved and make a difference. Go to www.walkforalzheimers.ca or call 613 523-4004.