

QUILTING FOR CANCER

“A quilt will warm your body and comfort your soul.”

- Author Unknown

If you had told Frank Halden that someday he would sew quilts and raffle them off for the benefit of cancer research, he probably would have thought you were crazy. After all, it was his wife, Hallie-Jo, who was the seamstress in the family.

But when Hallie-Jo passed, Frank pieced together a quilt as part of working his way through grief. And the concept of Quilt 4 Cancer grew from there.

City boy turned country

Frank was born and raised in New York City. The decade of the 60s was a great time to be in the city. He had a good primary school experience at the Rudolph Steiner School – the oldest Waldorf School in the United States. He played on a soccer team that was made up of the delegation to the United Nations from Guyana. He even got involved in the music scene, playing a little guitar.

Frank attended SUNY to study Animal Science. He currently does animal nutrition work for a Canadian feed company, which puts him in direct contact with dairy farmers in Northeastern Vermont.

Quiet, elegant way

In the 1970s, Frank was a sales rep for an agricultural equipment company. His territory took in the New England states. It was on a sales trip to Vermont in 1974 that he first met Hallie-Jo. She had a quiet, elegant way about her that Frank couldn't resist.

Frank and Hallie-Jo were married early in 1976. Hallie-Jo relocated to Connecticut – Frank's home base – with her two children, Amy and David. Samantha was born to Frank and Hallie-Jo on November 21, 1976.

The Halden family eventually settled in Craftsbury, Vermont. Frank was traveling extensively and it made sense to relocate so they could spend more time together as a family.