

# Experiencing world-class cardiac care

A devastating phone call ultimately saved Ron's life.

Ron Gardner from Burlington was planning a trip to Florida to visit his brother George, who played for the Vancouver Canucks as the team's first goaltender. Before making the trip

important.

## **The cardiac journey begins**

After a referral from his family doctor, Ron began his journey with the cardiac team at Hamilton General Hospital (HGH). Test results indicated Ron would need open-heart surgery, but he was healthy enough to delay surgery at the time.

Several months later, Ron was golfing in Vancouver when he dropped to his knees in pain.

The sensation was like pushing back the darkness as I tried desperately to catch my breath, says Ron. Upon returning to Hamilton, the cardiac team at HGH told me I probably would have died if I'd walked another 100 steps.

The rapid progression of Ron's symptoms meant the time for open-heart surgery had come.

## **A positive endorsement**

One of Ron's close friends with connections to healthcare

## Ten years later

A decade after his surgery, Ron continues to praise Dr. Victor Chu, as well as the [cardiac](#) and ICU teams at HGH for saving his life.

I proudly tell people that we have a world-class cardiac program so close to home.

## Funding Innovation

Ron is the president of Funding Innovation, which is a Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation [Care4 cause marketing partner](#). Funding Innovation operates an art easel program at businesses across the region and in Hamilton Health Sciences sites. Please consider bidding on a print when you spot an easel with the Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation logo, as proceeds will support The Foundation.