



**“The more we lose who she is, the more we would like to do something to create awareness.”**

### **One Family’s Mission**

Mike Gehm and his family are trying to create awareness for Alzheimer’s disease to honor their mother, Mary, living with disease, and to help other families on a similar journey. “As a family, we had no experience with this disease until our mother’s diagnosis,” Mike shared. “We had to figure a lot of things out and teach ourselves about care, progression and next steps.”



Mary Therese Gehm was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer’s in 2018. She was a special education teacher for her entire career, with a focus on helping children with disabilities communicate. She became a master gardener and had a passion for pressing flowers and turning them into art. She is a wife, mother and grandmother. “This disease has taken a very creative and loving person and removed so many of her precious talents and her memories,” Mike “The more we lose who she is, the more we would like to do something to create awareness. If we can help make this journey easier for families, we want to do our part.”

### **Raising funds through a Special Brew**



Mike has partnered with Luna Cafe as a part of The Longest Day to offer a special blend, Mary’s Passion. “I’m a fan of the coffee and I knew they did fundraising, so I reached out to the owner,” Mike shared. “They wanted to help support us. To me this is about creating awareness.” Proceeds will benefit the Alzheimer’s Association. To order the coffee you can visit: [lunacafe.com/products/marys-passion](http://lunacafe.com/products/marys-passion)

The Longest Day is the day of the year with the most light — the summer solstice. Participants across the nation fundraise through The Longest Day program to advance the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer’s Association.

