



March 2018

Recipient: Katy Maker, RN, Hospice

Nomination submitted by Patient's family

My wife's father, Don, was hospitalized shortly after his 99th birthday with end-stage heart and kidney disease. The decision was made by his 3 daughters to have him return to his assisted living facility and place him on hospice. Katy was the nurse (along with a Hospice trainee and student nurse) who did the nursing admission. Katy was very gentle during the process and was still at the main desk when Don experienced difficulty breathing and began to pass.

Katy was immediately in the room and showed extraordinary kindness and compassion for his family during a difficult time. She led the family in song and made the passing a very calm and gentle event. I can't count the number of times in the following days that his 3 daughters mentioned the "3 angels" that were in Don's room during his passing. I personally was in total awe at the kindness and compassion she displayed and I'm proud to say that I'm associated with an institution that provides such an exemplary level of care. The student nurse and Hospice trainee were very fortunate to have such a wonderful role model. She will forever be remembered by my wife and her sisters as "their father's angel".





Jen Piper, RN, Supervisor, Betty Jorgenson, RN, Administrator
DAISY Recipient, Katy Maker, RN
Kelly Anderson, LPN, and Megan Eddy, RN, Administrator

Comments from Kelly Sikkink, Director:

Katy is an exemplary nurse who takes the time to get to know each patient and family/caregiving team. She is an excellent teacher and as mentioned in the family's letter, she had both an orientee and a student nurse with her on the visit. Katy's prior experience at the beginning of life (nurse midwife), has helped many patients and families see how truly beautiful and precious each day is and articulates the inner strengths, courage, and love she sees at the visit. She helps identify what is most important to them at this stage in their life's journey and works with the interdisciplinary team to meet those goals. Katy also cares for our Hospice team and shares her "life lessons" ...even has a great music selection that rejuvenates her soul! It is common to see her singing in the hallways! Thank you Katy for choosing to work in Hospice! You are very deserving of the Daisy Award.

Comments from Jen Piper, Supervisor:

Katy is an RN and a person that I greatly admire. I look up to her for so many reasons. Her clinical expertise, nursing knowledge and intelligence are obvious to anyone who works with her and receives care from her. However, what makes Katy stand out to me as an exemplary nurse is the amount of compassion and care she brings to every interaction with patients and with her team members. Katy is so empathetic and sensitive to the needs of those around her, and she exudes peace, joy, and calm. Katy always finds a way to address not only the needs of the patients, but their families' needs as well. Many patients' families have commented on how touched and humbled they have been by interactions with Katy and from the attention she shows towards them and their loved ones. Katy has had experience with many diverse cultures and patient populations before her work in our department, and as a result, she brings unique songs, rituals, and heartfelt stories to share with patients and their families. These have added so much richness and meaning to the relationships she is building in this department, and she radiates respect for the whole person. She is non-judgmental and kind, and meets the patients wherever they are in their journey. Katy is very deserving of the Daisy Award, and I am so glad she is on our team.