



ON YOUR RETIREMENT !

Now Life Begins ...



Ruth Anderson, LPN
Capital Health, 1971 - 2004

Retire, now it is your time to:
Experience all that life has to offer,
Take time to smell the roses,
Investigate your hobbies,
Revitalize your dreams, and,
Embark on a new way of life!

Catherine Pulsifer

PROFILE OF RUTH ANDERSON, LPN

Ruth Anderson received her early education in Upper Hammonds Plains. In 1964, she moved to Halifax, where she worked as a domestic worker for Rev. Frank and Dr. Jean Lawson. After the Lawsons moved, in 1965, Ruth was introduced to Al and Jean Irving, and she gained employment as a domestic worker for their family for about five years. Ruth held such a special place in the Irving household that the couple unofficially adopted her as their daughter. Even to this day, Ruth continues to enjoy a close relationship with the Irving children and grandchildren.

While working with the Irvings, Ruth decided to pursue night study to complete high school at Queen Elizabeth High. Then, from 1969 to 1970, she worked as a nurse's aide at the former Children's Hospital. Ruth trained at the old Halifax Infirmary as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), and in 1971, she began her career as a CNA at the old Halifax Infirmary - in the 4A Medicine and Hematology Ward. Ruth worked on this ward until July 1974, when she quit her job due to a request for vacation being denied. For the following four months, Ruth worked private duty nursing with the Private Duty Registry, and returned to 4A on December 2, 1974 to resume her nursing duties. The Head Nurse on 4A told Ruth that she did not fill her position because she knew that Ruth loved her work so much that she would be back.

The latter years of Ruth's nursing career brought with them a number of changes. In February of 1997, her work site changed - the old Halifax Infirmary moved to the QEII Health Sciences Centre (VG site). During 2000, Ruth's professional title - Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) - was renamed to Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). During 2002, Ruth's place of employment moved from the VG site to the new Halifax Infirmary site - unit 8.1, and she remained there until her retirement on December 31, 2004.

April 11, 2000, Ruth received a 25 Years of Service Award from the Capital District Health Authority, for her years of excellent service at the hospital. She expects to receive a 30 Years of Service Award later in 2005/2006.

Described as a kind and compassionate, caring and patient nurse, Ruth received an impressive final evaluation from her Unit Manager prior to her retirement. In this evaluation, she was praised as "an excellent team worker", who "participates in unit improvements", has "attained a high level of proficiency in all clinical skills", and whose "ideas and practices are well respected among the staff". Certainly, these qualities speak volumes of Ruth's hard work and devotion to a profession that she has served with excellence for over 30 years.

Now that her nursing days are over, Ruth's plans for the future include lots of traveling, baby sitting her children (the Irving-Dalzell children) and simply taking life one day at a time.

"It is with joy and admiration that we salute Ruth tonight.
No one more loved or respected has earned this right."

*Congratulations Ruth,
With Love from Family and Friends*