

# The Valley Voice *June 2020*

## National Nursing Assistants Week

June 18-24, 2020

Nina Roop has been a dedicated CNA at VNC since 2005. Nina says, "I like to think I can help make my residents' day a little better by taking the time to do little extra things for them." These "little extra things" are the most important to our residents, such as taking the time to help them FaceTime their families. Nina's big heart is evident in her work. She says, "I try to make sure each day I work a little harder to make them smile and know they are loved." Nina cares for her residents wonderfully and knows how to make them laugh. "Humor is a big part of my personality. Laugh as much as possible because it's good for the soul." Nina has been described as a "miracle worker." She works primarily on the ventilator unit. The residents on that unit can be nervous about getting up and going to activities with their equipment. Nina encourages them and takes the time to make sure they feel comfortable and confident before they leave their room. Nina is loved by all!



Simply stated, Kalina Yang is an outstanding CNA. Kalina humbly said what she likes most about her job is "I get to take care of these people. It's my happiness". Kalina came from Thailand at age 12 and spoke no English, but already knew she wanted to be a nurse. She says, "this is more than just my job" and that she likes to help people who cannot help themselves. "Even if I can't cure them, I can make a difference", she says. When asked what makes her the most proud about her job, she said, "I make sure they're clean, they're safe. Then I go home and pray to God to keep them that way. Next day I check rooms to see if they're waiting for me to come back". Kalina also says she hopes to go for her LPN. We know she will succeed. Wow, Kalina, you have a heart of gold and the residents of Valley are so blessed to have you!!



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**"Step- Dad"- The One Who Stepped Up**

Murray Walker will very excitedly tell you about his daughters, Melissa and Wendy. He is very proud of all they have accomplished and how they take such good care of him and his loving wife Brenda. Murray may not be their biological father, but he certainly did not let that stop him from loving them. Murray was Brenda's neighbor and he couldn't help but to fall in love with her girls. He remembers bringing the girls "Push Ups" ice cream for a special treat. When Brenda told the girls that she and Murray were going to get married, the girls very happily told her, "he loved us first." Murray and Brenda were married on April 24, 1992 on a beach with Melissa as the maid of honor and Wendy as the best man.

Melissa can't tell enough stories about her childhood including the "souped" up golf cart that she and Wendy received for Christmas one year. Murray had a new paint job, lights, and a CB radio put in. The girls used the golf cart to chase rabbits while keeping Murray updated on the fun via the CB radio. Melissa says Murray was always the fun-loving Dad who was goofy and had a lot of bad "Dad jokes". Melissa remembers when she played soft ball Murray would proudly heckle her from the bleachers yelling, "That a girl Lisser!"

Wendy shares that Murray is really the "biggest kid" of all and shared his love of mini golf with them. He also shared his "magic stuff" with the girls when he pulled their loose teeth. He used H2O so it never hurt when he pulled the tooth. Later in life when Wendy learned H2O is water, she felt a little gypped that he tricked her but knew some of his tricks were for her benefit. When the girls got in trouble they had to go to "court". Murray was judge and Brenda was prosecutor. The girls defended themselves and usually received a spanking for punishment. The trick was when Brenda left the room for Murray to give the spanking, he told the girls to yell as he slapped his own leg. The secret's out now! Murray's love for his family is apparent his smile and the sparkle in his eyes when he talks about them. "I'm proud of my girls," Murray says. "I'm so glad I get to call them mine."



**A Mother's Love Lives On**

Betty Dagenhart was a great mother to Donald, Karen, and Judy, a loving grandmother to Haley, Phil, Brad, Josh, and Noah, and a great-grandmother to Sarah, Zachary, Xander, River, Ella, and Axel. She was always there for her family through cancer, broken bones, hip replacements, knee replacements, and broken hearts.

Betty was a faithful member of Mt. Wesley Church and made sure her children were in church on Sundays. She loved the Lord and wanted her children to have the same faith.

Betty and Earl were married for 59 years until his passing in 2012. They both worked at Schneider Mills 6 days a week. Karen mentioned that it must have been difficult raising 3 children with house-keeping, laundry, and cooking. Betty did it all with a loving heart!

Betty loved holidays and wanted her family at home for Christmas morning. She always cooked breakfast for everyone. Santa always came! Karen remembered Easter vividly as well. Betty dressed everyone in style for church from bow ties, crinolines, white gloves. Betty loved her shopping trips to Hamrick's and spending quality time with her family! In Karen's words, "Betty Dagenhart was the best mother ever."

[This article is published posthumously at the permission of Betty's family as she passed away on June 14, 2020. Heaven has gained a beautiful soul.](#)

