

Dear transplant nurse,

Recently my husband had a heart transplant. Our transplant nurses were, and still are wonderful.

They never thought we asked too many questions and were always there to comfort and educate me and our family.

After the transplant my husband had a very serious loss of memory. Carol was there to hold my hand and just let me cry or ask questions. I know they did not have all of the answers as to why he did not know me or my children. The nurses and doctors in the ICU were amazing. They let us stay with him, and my daughter made a mp3 of his favorite music. They would let us put the head phones on him as a reminder and to help cut out some of the routine noises of the ICU. When the music stopped they would take the head phones off of his head. We knew he was getting better when he tapped his foot and started singing along with the music. The ICU nurses and Carol let us know the first time he started to react to the music.

Carol was there with all of the information and update on his tests and care.

As he progressed and was no longer in ICU Carol made more than the routine daily visits to check on us.

She and all of the nurses and doctors did not think we were crazy when we plastered his room with photos of family and especially our granddaughters. They would ask about our family, and talk to Don about the photos. Carol knows our children and grand children's names.

As Don continued to regain his memory she celebrated with us. She joked with Don and encouraged us. Our daughter, Stacy was with me through the ordeal. Carol answered all of our questions and Stacy was and still is impressed with her care. As he progressed she would say did you call Carol and tell her?

I would never want to go through this with out Carol. She reassured us every step of the way.

Don has made a total recovery. We will never know why he lost his memory for 5 days but that does not matter. I never felt alone. Carol never avoided my questions or more importantly she would look me in the eyes and tell me that she was there. We felt that she and the ICU nurses made the difference in his recovery.

All of the transplant nurses must be Guardian Angels, we know we have one and believe that YOU must be one too. Thanks!!

Sincerely

*Kay Kendrick*