“Honor a Nurse – Remember a Nurse”

If you would like to honor or remember a nurse who is special to you, donate to the Kentucky Nurses Foundation’s (KNF) “Honor a Nurse – Remember a Nurse” campaign. KNF will use campaign funds for nursing scholarships, research and to promote high quality healthcare throughout the Commonwealth. The KNF is the philanthropic arm of the Kentucky Nurses Association.

To donate today, visit kentucky-nurses.org or call 502-245-2843.

The Nightingale Tribute is sponsored by:

[Logos and contact information]

The Nightingale Tribute

A tribute to any registered nurse or licensed practical nurse in Kentucky –

Nursing is a profession of service that is not practiced in isolation. Nursing involves collaborative caregiving. It is appropriate that we honor our colleagues not only during their careers, but also at the end of life’s final journey.
Frequently Asked Questions

The Nightingale Tribute begins with a short synopsis of the nurse’s career and a Nightingale Tribute Reading. The program also includes a reading of the poem, “She/He Was There.”

How do I plan for the tribute as part of my funeral/visitation arrangements?

Include a copy of this brochure in your pre-planning arrangements.

How do I arrange for a tribute for someone?

Call the Kentucky Nurses Association (KNA) office at 502-245-2843.

A KNA staff member will contact the funeral home to find out if the family would like for the tribute to be part of their loved one’s service. The KNA staff member will contact the chapter leader in the nurse’s local community and ask that leader to find a nurse to facilitate the tribute.

Depending on the family’s preference, the nurse will present the tribute at the visitation or as part of the funeral service. Upon completion of the program, the nurse will thank the family for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the KNA and give them a white rose to place on the casket or keep as a remembrance.

She/He Was There

When a calming, quiet presence was all that was needed,
She/He was there.

In the excitement and miracle of birth, or in the mystery and loss of life,
She/He was there.

When a silent glance could uplift a patient, family member or friend,
She/He was there.

At those times when the unexplainable needed to be explained,
She/He was there.

When the situation demanded a swift foot and sharp mind,
She/He was there.

When a gentle touch, a firm push, or an encouraging word was needed,
She/He was there.

In choosing the best one from a family’s ‘Thank You’ box of chocolates,
She/He was there.

To witness humanity – its beauty, in good times and bad, without judgment,
She/He was there.

To embrace the woes of the world, willingly, and offer hope,
She/He was there.

And now, that it is time to be at the Greater One’s side,
She/He is there.

“She was There” is copyrighted by Duane Jaeger, MSN, KSNA, RN. Individuals using this poem as part of a memorial service are permitted to change the pronoun to make it gender appropriate.