

DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award
Patricia Hilpert Nomination Letters

I would like to Nominate Patricia Hilpert for the Daisy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Pat has had a long and distinguished career as a nurse and nursing supervisor at St Michael's Hospital.

She has dedicated her life to the care of others. First as a nurse providing compassionate care to the ill.

Secondly as a Role Model, sharing her expertise and demonstrating in all she did the true Science of Nursing, (That being Caring) with countless new RN's like myself. I have never met a more Christ like individual.

Thirdly as a community leader, fund raising for the needy, collecting, and refurbishing toys for children, providing food for the hungry.

Fourthly, promotes nursing with a yearly scholarship to a young person seeking training as a CAN.

Lastly as a true friend to the dying, those grief losses, those without family, a supporter for those suffering dementia and countless other saintly acts.

I will also share your email with other who will echo my belief that Patricia is a candidate for this award.

~ Laurie Kostka, RN, MSN

Pat was a pm supervisor at a time when I had small children and offered to pick up my Christmas Eve shift so I could be with them. She was cross trained in several departments, mine being ER. She was always a pleasure to have her come in to help when we were slammed, as she was a calm in the midst of chaos.

With great respect and love for a fabulous Christian nurse,

~Helen Mozuch, RN

My name is Kate Peterson RN and have known Pat Hilpert since 1977 when I started in the ICU/CCU at St Michael's Hospital here in Stevens Point. I had the great privilege and pleasure to work with her on the many occasions she floated into our unit from the Float Pool she was in and later years when she took the house RN supervisor position. Never was there a time that she did not have a sincere smile and care with any interaction whether it be staff, patient, family or other. Her generosity and gracious spirit rendered her the name, "Saint Pat"! I marveled (still do) at her effortless ability to attend to the needs of so many and never weary but display pure joy. She embodies the Christian life and has been a significant role model for me as well as so many others.

Thank you for this opportunity!

~ Kate Peterson

I would like to honor Pat Hilpert, RN for the Daisy award. She worked at St. Michael's Hospital as a Nursing Supervisor. She is an excellent nurse, both in and outside the hospital. She is in her 80's and still going. Very active in her church missions. Helps with Operation Bootstrap. She organizes volunteers, donates from her own means. Has been an active volunteer for many years. She helps her neighbors and anyone else in need. She has opened her home to the homeless, provides for them, seeks community assistance for whatever the need. She takes people for medical care, provides transportation, and follow up care, hands on. She has been working with an individual with special needs who was incarcerated. Provided clothing, food, household goods, and transportation daily.

She has adopted a group of men that stay in a boarding hotel. Has provided clothing, food, personal care items out of her own pocket. Set up volunteers to help provide special meals for the holidays for them. Gives them gifts of everyday items to maintain A.D.L.'s

I have never seen anyone so busy all the time to help other people out.

She is a stopping place where people drop off toys, other household supplies. She washes and sews the toys. Makes clothes for them. She has provided thousands of toys and books to be distributed amongst our community and outside our location home and abroad.

She is very humble and gracious. Someone to look up to as a role model in life.

I am sure she is involved in more than this but keeps it close to her heart. Another Mother Theresa. I am a nurse, and I and my colleagues hold her in high esteem.

~ Jennifer Pray

Pat Hilpert worked for many years at St Michael's Hospital in many positions. She was a staff nurse, who evolved into a "float nurse", then worked as a "House Supervisor", among many other roles throughout her tenure. Most often in her later years of employment, Pat worked alongside many new staff— nurses, nursing assistants, other department staff alike. Always focusing on the patient and what was best for each person. When Pat retired, patient satisfaction numbers decreased, so telling of the impact that one caring person can have on both patients and staff.

In retirement, Pat continued to seek opportunities to reach out to others. She worked with the BABES Program in the elementary schools. She helped many people who were down and out on their luck. Not only helping that individual, but recognizing the community around that person. She would find a way to help them as well, most often in feeding and/or clothing offerings.

This led to many years of volunteering at Operation Bootstrap. Here she could give to others from what others gave to Bootstrap. A wonderful fit.

Another wonderful fit is Pat's continued connection with the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother. She is a Lay Associate of the Sisters. This connects prayer life and service to others as she connects more globally with the mission of the Sisters.

There was always the desire to have her St Michael's community, be family. Pat wanted to stay in touch with other retirees. We were family at work, why not in retirement?! So she gathered a group of nurses and began meeting at various restaurants around town for lunch. This group is named "CHEERS". Having shut down during COVID, it has resumed recently. A phone call & email network shares date, time, & location each month. Such an accepting group.

Out of "CHEERS" evolved the Pat Hilpert Annual Picnic! Here we are today, enjoying the last of its kind as Pat is "retiring", once again, from another ministry.

Thank you for considering Pat Hilpert for this award. She is a good soul who I am blessed to call my friend.

~Sherry Boyce

Pat was the night supervisor at St. Michael's when I started in 1997. She was one of the first people I saw every morning at 0430. Pat was always smiling and gracious. She made me feel like a part of the St Michael team. Pat was/is an inspiration.

Thanks, Pat, for being you.

~ Clara Baker

I began working at St. Michael's Hospital as an RN in 1976. One of the first RNs I met was Pat Hilpert. She was friendly, warm and welcoming. I was drawn to her and it did not take long to realize I wanted to be like her. She has been my role model for 36+ years and I tried hard to emulate her. Pat is the epitome of what I always thought a nurse should be. She was not only a warm, compassionate and capable RN, she was a team player in every sense of the word. I cannot think of anyone else more deserving of the Daisy Award. I feel honored to have been able to work with Pat and call her a true friend.

Sincerely,

Margaret Camlek

I had the privilege of working with Pat Hilpert throughout my 35+ years working at St. Michael's hospital. Pat was always the go to person to get an intravenous line in a patient others couldn't, the nurse you would call to help calm an agitated or confused patient, the coordinator who would somehow figure out an impossible staffing issue, or the colleague who was always available to support you in any situation.

Many generations of nurses were influenced by Pat Hilpert's exemplary nursing skills during her career as a nurse and in her generous commitment to the community of Stevens Point. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of the Daisy Lifetime Achievement award.

Michele Repinski, RN, CCRN, OCN

