

JUDY (Weyer) PUND

Lending a Helpful Hand: Judy Pund's Life as a Health Administrator

Graduate: Class of 1975 Occupation: Health Facility Administrator
By Laura Pund, Spring 2010

Directing, organizing, and providing care to the elderly describe some of the many services Judy Pund offers to the Northwood Good Samaritan Health Facility in Jasper, Indiana. When working at Good Samaritan, Judy holds a humility position of great responsibility as the health facility administrator. As administrator, Judy's on-the-job tasks include providing care and services to the elderly as well as others in need. With twenty-four years of experience in this helping facility, Judy has gone from twenty-one years as the director of nursing, to recently elevating to the administrator position in 2007.

As a former Forest Park Ranger, Judy Pund enjoyed playing the clarinet as a member in the marching band and participating in various marching contests. She says, "We had a great band director in Mr. Keusch and always did well in competitions." As a senior marching band member, Judy says that her class took trips to different places such as Florida and Tennessee. With the arrival of Judy's senior year, the band members vacationed in Florida.

To prepare herself for her nursing and leadership career, Judy Pund studied intensely to earn a BSN, or bachelor of science degree in nursing. In 1979, Judy graduated from Indiana State University in Terre Haute. Also in the same year, Judy received her RN license, or registered nurse license. Three years ago, in 2007, she studied and trained for her HFA license, or health facility administration license.

According to Judy, working as a nurse feels extremely rewarding. Some of her highlights include caring for patients and knowing them on a personal level. Before becoming a health facility administrator, Judy started her early work in hospitals; she worked in the medical surgical area and became house supervisor. After working in hospitals for six years, Judy found the opportunity to work for Northwood Good Samaritan. Judy says, "I found my true calling and niche when working with the elderly." While getting to know the patients on a personal level, she found you can form personal relationships with them. She says you can learn "heaps" from listening to the patients' life stories and what they have learned over the years.

When earning the position of administrator, Judy found her tasks more office related. She's not only managing the nursing department, but Judy also has the responsibility of the facility as a whole. Her tasks include managing the financial side of the business, along with ensuring care for the residents. Because Northwood Good Samaritan is a highly regulated company by the state and government, Judy must maintain and follow the regulations. Her typical working day includes meeting with department managers and problem solving any issues that occur in their department. By meeting with residents and their families, Judy looks for their approval and finding the residents' needs fulfilled.

Advice for the future, which Judy wants to leave behind to current high school students, includes having fun and taking your education seriously. She says time can pass quickly; before long you need to find a career out in the "real world." Judy says, "Work is not a chore if you enjoy it; I have been fortunate in finding such a career."