



A Eulogy for My Dear Friend, Stephanie Vaccaro

From the first day I met Stephanie we clicked. That was somewhere around 1995. Our friendship grew stronger over the years. We worked together at California Pacific Medical Center. Stephanie was the friend who had the most influence in my career. Stephanie was always there for me in good times as well as bad.

Stephanie was right there at the hospital when I had my hip replacement. She was there for me in 2004 when I finally married the love of my life. She was a tremendous support to me as I grieved my husband's death. Her support of my disabling illness was never failing. She was a tremendous asset to the Charles E. Holman Foundation for Morgellons Information as she contributed to the Nursing Advisory team. Stephanie saw the decline in my health and understood my turmoil in battling the effects of Morgellons. She was an encouragement to me in so many ways.

Stephanie supported me always in all of my endeavors. She always had faith in my success. Her devotion and dedication to our chosen field of nursing had a major impact on all that I accomplished professionally. As my boss, Stephanie made me the best nurse I could possibly be. Stephanie standards were high and her expectations were enormous. Her standard of excellence was top notch. With Stephanie in charge, there is no question that our patients received the very best possible care.

My friend Stephanie was elegant, compassionate, kind, loyal, spiritual, and sincere. In her profession she was dedicated, diligent, and determined. She held a world of knowledge of medicine and was a mentor to many new nurses. Stephanie was delightfully humorous. Her Irish heritage would shine through and her dry sense of humor kept people laughing long after the punch line was delivered.

Stephanie's huge ocean blue eyes Irish eyes were always smiling. She was truly a beautiful woman inside as well as outside. She was the perfect example of how a nurse should look. Never had wrinkles in her scrubs. Her thick dark hair was always perfect. As a critical care nurse, she was always prepared for every emergency. Stephanie saved many lives with her strong knowledge base and her rapid response to any situation. She will be forever remembered in the Medical Specialty Intensive Care Unit at California Pacific Medical Center.

Stephanie's love and compassion, her sense of humor, her strong will, and her dedication to the nursing profession will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. The life lessons she taught me personally and professionally will be with me until we meet again.

God bless you Stephanie Vaccaro, my mentor, my friend, my sister in Christ. I will miss you.

~Cindy Casey, RN