

Michele Pantle

A Dear Friend, An Extraordinary Nurse, A Gentle Person



Michele Pantle, 58, of Terre Haute, passed away at 9:35 p.m. Thursday, July 23, 2009, in her home surrounded by family and friends, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was born May 30, 1951, in Terre Haute, to Eugene Pantle and Alma Jean Snedeker Pantle. She was preceded in death by her father; and by her brother, Eugene "Bud" Pantle. Survivors include, her mother, Alma Jean Pantle of Dennison, Ill.; a sister and brother-in-law, Rebekah and Terry Mann of Palm Bay, Fla.; nieces, Sarah Fyle of Dennison, Nicole (Jerry) Wampler and Tara Mann, all of Palm Bay, Fla.; great-nieces, Ashley Stroud and Megan Fyle, both of Dennison; aunts, Mary Harper and Evadine Crumrin, both of Marshall, Ill.; and various cousins.

Michele also leaves behind a large number of friends, students, and former students she met during her careers as a Registered Nurse at Union Hospital and as an instructor at the Indiana State University College of Nursing, Health and Human Services. Michele began her nursing career at the age of 20, as a staff nurse at Union Hospital. She remained a loyal and valuable employee for 38 years, retiring from the hospital earlier this month. She returned to college and completed her BSN, MSN, and became a Family Nurse Practitioner. Nineteen years ago, she began teaching as a clinical instructor at the Indiana State University School of Nursing, now known as the College of Nursing, Health and Human Services.

The number of lives she touched as both a nurse and as a nursing instructor is phenomenal. Many former patients, as well as former and current students, contacted Michele over the years to simply thank her for the care, nurturing, guidance, and help she gave to them when they most needed it. Many people believe that Michele was the epitome of what a nurse should be and have felt very blessed to have known her.

The family suggests that if friends so desire, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of donor's choice or to the Michele Pantle Nursing Scholarship fund c/o Union Hospital Foundation.

One Lone Leaf

One lone leaf
Hangs on the tree
A symbol of Hope
Even for me

It survived the winter
Wind and the rain
It reminds us that spring
Will always remain

The leaf is not perfect
It's a little flawed
But when I see it
I am awed

Soon buds will be shouting
Spring is near
But the leaf we'll remember
Has shown no fear

One little leaf
Stands out from the rest
The lone little leaf
Has passed the test

The leaf tells of life
And the pain that we bear
And the Hope that's within us
In everyone, everywhere

*Written by Dale Ann O'Neal
Inspired by Michele Pantle
February 27, 2009*

Lost Little Leaf

I was walking
The other night
And looked up in the tree
The little leaf
Still hanging there
I felt it calling me

What is the meaning?
What do I see?
In that lonely little leaf?
It speaks of life and joy
And hope and strength
But also speaks of grief

The leaf knows clearly
That time is short
From the tree it soon will fall
But how it stayed
So strong and free
Has meaning for us all

The wind blew gently
Two days ago
As I was walking down the hill
My little leaf
Fell softly down
Then everything was still

There was no struggle
No fight was left
A tear fell from my eye
And then I saw it
The heartfelt hope
Life will never die

*Written by Dale Ann O'Neal
March 17, 2009
Dedicated to Michele Pantle
July 23, 2009*

Michele will be deeply missed by colleagues, friends, and students at Indiana State University