

## An Unexpected Thank You

I have wanted to be a nurse since the beginning of high school, so that I could apply my instinctive ability to help and show compassion towards others. I have worked hard in school to achieve that goal. Nursing school has been a challenge and exciting because I am learning how to apply my desire to help others. To meet this challenge I am working and studying harder than ever before because this is a goal that I am determined to attain. It was during my first few weeks of clinicals that I encountered a client that reminded me of why I wanted to be a nurse in the first place and truly inspired me to continue to work hard to achieve my goals.

This client was in her mid forties with a history of heavy drinking and other problems that resulted from her drinking. After getting my assignment I set to work developing a care plan for her that I could follow. Because I was in my first semester of nursing classes, and I had only dealt with two patients before, I was still naturally apprehensive and self-conscious of my abilities. When I went in the next day to care for this client I found her husband by her side comforting her and reassuring her. I tried to make them both as comfortable as I could speaking to her and her husband calmly as I went about my duties as outlined in my care plan. When clinical was over for that day I joined the other students and as we were walking out the front door of the hospital I realized that the client's husband was there. He came up to me and personally thanked me by name, shaking my hand, and telling me that I was a great help to him and his wife. He told me that he knew I would make a good nurse and to keep up the good work helping others as I had helped him and his wife. This bolstered my confidence what I am doing and I know now more than ever that I am pursuing not only a worthy career, but one that I know will fit me well.