

37 Years of Service

There are some big doings at Life Care Center of Morehead today, and rightfully so. It is a time of sadness and celebration, of departure and new beginnings, of tributes and honor. Maxine Pennington, a certified nursing assistant, will walk away after 37 years of service in that building.

She is retiring from the first and only job she has ever had – in the public arena, that is. Before joining the nursing center on June 21, 1968, she was busy rearing 10 children. And that, within itself, is quite a job.

Retirement may not keep her away from the residents she loves and her longtime friends on the staff who are like part of her family, however. She will now focus more of her time and attention on her husband, who is not well. And, if those responsibilities allow, “I want to come back to volunteer.”

“I’m sad, and I hate to go, but I’m getting tired,” Pennington, 77, said. “I like taking care of these people. They are like my parents or my husband or my children.” As a Christian, she added, “I try to do the right thing. I believe in doing everything you can for someone who needs help.”

“Maxine is always smiling and has a very positive attitude,” said Ann Snarr, the facility’s executive director. “She is so dedicated to our residents. We will certainly miss Maxine.”

A resident, Charles Littleton, who has been living at Life Care Center of Morehead since 1976, president of the residents’ council since it was originated in 1980 and a song leader for worship on Sundays, said of Pennington: “She’s always willing to help residents any way she can. She’s a special person.”

What a remarkable record! Thirty-seven years of doing *Whatever It Takes And Then Some* for our residents. Thirty-seven years of lifting, turning, serving, loving and praying for her residents.

Thirty-seven years of obedience to God by caring for His children. That is a life of peace, joy and inner satisfaction.

--Beecher Hunter