

# ***The Hats of Nurses***

Although nurses today generally do not wear the nursing cap, which is a nearly universally recognized symbol of nursing, they still wear many hats.

That truth is acknowledged in a poem sent to me by LeAnn Thieman, who spoke at Life Care for directors of nursing meetings in 2008 and 2010. Thieman is a co-author of several books in the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series, including *Chicken Soup for the Nurse's Soul* and *Chicken Soup for the Caregiver's Soul*. Author of the poem is John Wayne Schlatter. Here it is:

## ***To the Nurses of the World***

*You evangelists of encouragement, you are so much more than you know.*

*You have never let what you couldn't do stop you from doing all you could do.*

*You are sales people, your briefcases are filled with a product called hope.*

*You are explorers, knowing that once you have gone as far as you can see, you will still see farther.*

*You are singers spreading the melody of consideration.*

*You are lawyers making a case for life.*

*You are authors helping others add more pages to their book of memory.*

*You are comedians dispensing the medicine of laughter.*

*You are magicians creating real miracles that inspire patients and families.*

*Like King Arthur and Joan of Arc, you are warriors battling against the villains of negativity.*

*Dorothy would have reached Oz much faster in the company of one nurse.*

*For no one can practice your profession unless they already possess a brain brimming with wisdom, boundless courage, and a heart filled with love.*

*You are living proof that humanity is created in the image and likeness of God, and the name of that God is Love.*

Thieman urges the poem to be shared with "every nurse you know," and it should be "read and read again to more fully realize how much you are appreciated."

And I say Amen! Life Care is blessed with talented and compassionate nurses who build our reputation for love and care every day.

– Beecher Hunter