

The Life and Times of Susan Womac

Life can throw a curve ball when we least expect it. Doubtless, that has happened to each of you.

That was certainly the case early on Tuesday, July 16, when John Bottley in Life Care's Legal Department received a shocking call that one of our valued associates, Susan Womac, a legal secretary, had passed away early that morning. Womac, 54, left work the day before in her usual chipper mood with no sign of alarm. She apparently died in her sleep.

Co-workers gathered in a conference room to learn the news, and, universally, there was shock on each face and tears streaming down the cheeks. In the ensuing conversation, stories of Susan's friendship, encouragement, compassion, and loyalty to each of them and to the company poured forth. Here is a sampling:



- *Every morning, she would start her day with reading Scripture. Her favorite word from the Bible was “suddenly,” because usually something extraordinary happened after this word was used. She was a treasured friend and co-worker. I will miss her laughter, her encouragement and friendship greatly – Dana Roberts*
- *I will miss her quick wit, delightful sense of humor and her concern and compassion for others. Humble and unassuming, her presence filled the room in a way that sort of snuck up on you. I will miss her love of Christmas music and how she enjoyed listening to it all year long. I'll miss the fun she and I had bantering back and forth about playing Christmas music tunes when it wasn't Christmastime. I'm certain I'll think of her every time I hear Christmas music. I will miss swapping stories about our children's successes and challenges. She was so proud of her son and daughter – Denise Hannah*
- *If Susan had a mantra at work, it was “what can I do?” Coming to work for the Legal Department meant learning a new field with its own peculiar jargon and rules. She never once complained that too much was being asked of her but only worried about whether she was helping those around her. She never gave herself credit for the bravery she showed in taking on a challenge like this later in her career, or the perseverance it required of her. She was just grateful for the opportunity – Lena Morgan*
- *She was a nurturer. I loved seeing her be a nurturer – and being nurtured by her. Always others first. She looked well to the ways of her household and had the desire for everyone to be happy. You could tell they all love each other. I believe God puts people in our paths – to help each other to learn, grow, and lift one another up. She's still here; she has left part of herself with us. She became much more than a co-worker. She was a friend, family, my sister – Paula Kirby*

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What was there about the life of this woman that left such an indelible mark on those who knew her?

The portrait of Susan Womac painted by these four co-workers provides the answers: Love of God and others, a desire to serve, a compassion shown by her words and actions, commitment to family and friends, a belief that laughter can help ease the pressure points of living, a dedication to the mission of the company where she invested her time, her energy and her talents, and a humble and considerate spirit that drew others to her.

It is a picture of a beautiful journey that inspires and challenge us all to consider the course of our lives and the legacy we hope to leave.

– Beecher Hunter