

Togetherness

Within 30 minutes after President Reagan was shot on March 30, 1981, he was in the operating room at George Washington University Hospital. The speed and efficiency of the rescue mission was phenomenal.

However, that which was very impressive was the teamwork of the five physicians. George Morales, 54, an anesthesiologist formerly of Mexico, kept the President alive while Joseph Giordano, 39, a vascular surgeon from Union City, New Jersey, explored the abdomen for bleeding. Benjamin Aaron, from Kansas City, Missouri, and Kathleen Cheyney, 32, from Washington, New Jersey, both thoracic surgeons, probed for the flattened .22-caliber bullet in the President's lung. Sol Edelstein, 34, from Detroit, Michigan, chief of the emergency room, made sure all went smoothly.

Five persons, highly skilled and committed to saving life, disregarding individual differences, functioned as a well calibrated unit.

The lesson should not be lost on us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home. Each of our companies is made up of highly skilled individuals, functioning in unique disciplines. But for the service to our residents to be what it ought to be, these talents and personalities must be blended into an extraordinary team.

We may not be called upon to help a President of the United States, but we are given the mission of serving children of God – and that is a high calling, indeed, requiring our best.

--Beecher Hunter