

Eulogy for Margaret “Maggie” Reynolds (1941–2024)

A Life of Compassion and Service

Today we gather to celebrate the life of Maggie Reynolds, a devoted nurse whose gentle hands and warm smile brought comfort to countless patients at ProMedica. For over four decades, Maggie tended to the sick and the weary, always insisting that a kind word could be as healing as any medicine. She carried her stethoscope and her faith in humanity into every hospital room, turning moments of fear into instances of hope.

A Career in Caring

Maggie began nursing school in the early 1960s, driven by a desire to make a difference. At ProMedica, she worked every unit, pediatrics, oncology, hospice, bringing the same unwavering dedication to each ward. Colleagues remember her as the one who stayed late to soothe a frightened child, who organized potlucks to lift spirits during grueling shifts, and who mentored generations of nurses with patience and pride.

Family Roots and Garden Blooms

At home, Maggie wore many hats, wife to Tom for sixty years, mother to daughters Elaine and Carol, and grandmother to five bright-eyed grandchildren. Weekends found her in the backyard garden, tending roses and vegetables while humming old folk tunes. She saw gardening as an act of love: planting seeds, nurturing growth, and celebrating each new blossom just as she did the milestones in her family’s lives.

Guiding Girls to Greatness

Long after her hospital shifts ended, Maggie’s energy found its way to the Girl Scouts. She led cookie drives, taught outdoor skills, and helped girls earn badges in leadership and community service. Under her guidance, troop members learned the value of teamwork, resilience, and kindness, qualities Maggie embodied every day.

A Legacy of Kindness

Maggie believed the world could be healed one small act at a time. She leaves behind Tom, Elaine, and Carol, along with grandchildren who will carry forward her spirit of generosity. Her garden may rest for the winter, but the seeds of compassion she planted in our hearts will bloom for years to come.

Honoring Maggie's Memory

As we say farewell, let us honor Maggie by caring for one another, by nurturing growth in our communities, and by finding joy in simple acts of kindness. In her memory, may we wear a smile to a stranger, lend a hand without asking, and always remember that love is the greatest medicine of all.