
Sharon Nelson



Sharon Nelson received her ADN from Western Piedmont Community College in 2002 where she served as President of her Nursing Class; received the Excellence in Chemistry: General, Organic, and Biochemistry Award; and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. It was at Western Piedmont that Sharon joined the National Student Nurse Association and then the North Carolina Nurses Association (NCNA) upon graduation.

She went on to receive her RN to BSN from Lees-McRae College, graduating Summa cum Laude, in 2011, and received her MSN, Nursing Administration, from Lenoir Rhyne University in 2016, also graduating Summa cum Laude. It was at Lenoir Rhyne University she was invited and inducted into the Mu Alpha Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society.

While an Instructor of Nursing at Lees-McRae College, Sharon was an instrumental part of getting the Omega Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau chartered and served as Secretary for 3 years. In the past, she served as an NCLEX-RN Examination Item Review Panel member on two occasions at the National Council of State Boards of Nursing in Chicago. She has served twice as Nurse of the Day at the Legislature at the NC Legislative Building in Raleigh through the NCNA.

Sharon has served as a board member in various organizations including the Lees-McRae College Alumni Association Board of Directors; Appalachian State University Parent Advisory Board of Directors; and Appalachian State University Yosef Club Board of Directors. She and her family are proud members of the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Charlotte. Sharon and her husband are the sponsors of the Nelson Family Scholarship for Special Education at the Reich College of Education at Appalachian State University and are members of the 1899 Legacy Society through the Appalachian State University Foundation. In addition to being a member of Sigma Theta Tau and the NCNA/ANA, Sharon is a member of the Association for Nursing Professional Development.

Sharon has had extensive experience in teaching, from the nurse aide program at Caldwell Community College to pre-licensure RN programs with Western Piedmont, Lenoir Rhyne and Lees-McRae. She is proudly continuing in her career as Clinical Nurse Educator at Caldwell UNC Healthcare (Caldwell Memorial Hospital) in Lenoir, NC.

Sharon lives in the town of Drexel in Burke County with her husband Bobby and son Jeffrey (who has Down syndrome); fur-babies Allie (mini poodle) and cats Trixie and Tabby; older son Kurtis and his wife Samantha live in Kannapolis with their fur-babies Brownie (Chihuahua-mix) and two cats.