

## Sister Kathleen Ft. Wayne, IN



The ministry of companioning people as they are dying calls for a quiet courage. This is my life's call, to be present, and sometimes to be the only one with patients when they are alone in the world. God gave me a gift to be with people when they die. As I sit with patients, I share the following prayer with them: *May Jesus come and wrap his loving arms around you and take you home.*

This work is a very spiritual experience for me. I have been told I have a calming effect on people. When you have created a bond of trust with a person, it truly makes the last hours very peaceful. I have worked in homecare in Fort Wayne, IN, for the past 19 years.

I began my ministry for the Sisters of St. Agnes as a cook, for 13 years I prepared meals for 300 people daily and worked in food service as a Dietary Supervisor. When I returned to college for a bachelor degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout it was a new beginning for me.

Upon occasion I have been able to use my culinary skills to support a dying patient's wish. I feel deep gratitude to be able to give of my skills in such a way.