



## **A Sacred Encounter: You Were My Angel**

Several years ago, I had an experience that continues to remind me why I became a nurse and that what we do can affect others' lives.

I was standing in the foyer of my son's elementary school with all the other adults that were there to pick their children up at dismissal. I was having a conversation with a father standing next to me. From across the hall I noticed a woman was looking over at us. The woman said, "I will never forget your voice or your face. You were my angel." It was then that I recognized that this woman was a patient I had taken care of while working as a homecare nurse 4 years prior. Her name was Kathy.

We spent the next several minutes talking about the afternoon I had been at her home. She shared with me her thoughts about the exchange we had that day and what it meant to her. I shared with Kathy that I truly believe that the patients I have cared for have made a difference in my life as well. We both left the foyer that day with full hearts and smiles.

We touch people's lives every day, whether we realize it or not. What we perceive as a normal day, ordinary moments, and everyday tasks may mean something totally different to someone else. It is a reminder to be present during interactions with others and to be open for what you may receive in return from your patients and their families.

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