



Dear Patients,

Gratitude is the best description I have for the past 36 years I have been allowed to enter your lives. It is an honor to be trusted with deeply meaningful relationships in which we can literally discuss anything. To help care for you was an exceptional privilege, and I thank you for that.

Thank you for all your kind words and wishes. I truly believe the best advice is to “do unto others as you would have them do to you.” I certainly could not always give you the answers you wanted to hear, but I did try to help you formulate a plan to deal with it.

I have loved my career and learned so much throughout these years. Some of you noticed that recommendations to treat the same disease had changed over the years. The advancements in science and medicine dramatically improved our understanding and treatment of diseases, so it was incredibly fulfilling to change as knowledge grew. My biggest areas of growth though, were learning patience and listening so I could better understand what you were telling me.

All of you realize the practice of medicine is a team effort with everyone in clinic doing their part. From the polite greeting at check-in, the expertise of our phlebotomists drawing blood and lab techs running it correctly, to our medical assistants accurately recording your vital signs and medications all to prepare for your visit. Our schedulers advocate for you to get tests done in a timely fashion, and financial counselors help get coverage. The never tiring check-out staff continually adjust schedules to make it all “fit,” and their administrators make it all work. The research team is in the background screening charts, reminding us of study options and closely following their patients on study.

My partners are the best! In addition to their full clinic, they help cover the frequent calls and questions when one of us is out. We have always had a wonderful camaraderie to help each other that was so appreciated. Our infusion nurses are in a class all their own. I respect them immensely. These highly trained specialty nurses assure accuracy through their rigorous protocols while they take time for compassion.

Of course, we get closest to our clinic nurses who are our eyes and ears when patients call with concerns. They are the experts at clarifying the problems and getting the evaluation started so I could have more information to give a better answer. I greatly appreciate Ashley Sorrells, Bill Reynolds and Sue Moore for all their years of cheerfully helping that made HOPE a happy place to work.

“Dr. Bill” is a legend in his own time, and so many people have expressed how much they miss him! For 22 years Bill made us see the good in everybody, laugh at the good times and be there as a friend for the bad times. Thank you, Bill!

My greatest gifts from all of you are your stories. The stories of personal growth, sharing, spirituality and plenty of silliness. Thank you for being you. I will cherish these memories.

Sincerely,
Arielle Lee