



4/24/2026

Dear Willow Award,

I have worked with Jessica Baker, RN for 11 years. In those years I have come to know Jessica's true hospice heart. Not only has she been my friend and coworker, but she has also been my case manager for my grandma and my dad while they were in hospice.

In July 2025, my husband had been fighting cancer for several years and we were told there was nothing else they could do. Of course, I am very much pro-hospice because I know what they can do for the patients and their family. It took me until October 2025 to get my husband to agree to hospice. He felt by choosing hospice he was giving up.

I asked Jessica to be our nurse. I know this was hard for her to be friends and coworkers and he was my spouse. But Jessica was my rock. It did not matter how stubborn my husband was or how adamant he was that he was not giving up, Jessica treated him and me with grace and dignity. There were several hard conversations with him and lots of reassuring me as I knew what was happening. It was exceedingly difficult to be a hospice advocate /worker and being a caregiver where you are to be positive that they could beat the cancer.

Jessica never got upset with him or with me when I would call or text her questions. We were getting down to days of his life left and I was completely falling apart. She was there the whole way. His last days were so difficult for me and for our children.

February 10, 2026, 5:19pm, Jessica was there with us when he took his last earthly breath. I know if she had not been there to reassure me that we had done all the right things I think I would have fallen apart. She still checks on me and prays for me. I am just one of the cases where she treats all her patients like this, I did not get special treatment because of who I was. I got special treatment because of who she is.

Thank You for your consideration,

Tracy White

Spouse of Dewayne Skinner