



February 2023

To: Smith Family Funeral Homes

RE: Nomination Letter for Willow Award

Passionate, caring, and kind. All of these are words that I would use to describe Sarah Arnold. She was the hospice nurse for my husband, Charles. She blessed our lives in so many ways. Sarah would call to check on Charles, and even me at times. When there was no aide to come, Sarah would stay after hours and give Charles his bath, even though that was not her job. She was always going above and beyond.

Once, the power went out as Sarah was leaving, but she chose to stay and began calling to get oxygen tanks delivered to the house. The bed was deflating, and his oxygen tank quit. Our boys were there and were able to get two generators, so that the oxygen began going again, and the bed inflated. Sarah stayed until the power came back on, and we got Charles back in his bed. She had tears as she was leaving. You can't help but love someone with all your heart when they are filled with so much compassion and love.

When Charles wasn't able to speak clearly, he could always get out the words "love you!" and he truly did love her. Sarah prayed for Charles, she encouraged him, and cried with him at times. She has so much love and compassion, and we love her so much for the care that she gave my Charles.

We've had so many caregivers over the last several months. They were all wonderful, but Sarah did it all! She took blood and got it to the hospital to check for improvement. This act alone encouraged Charles because it was a little better at the time, but we all knew that God already had a purpose and a plan.

Sarah came out to our house the Friday night before Charles passed when I could not get his blood pressure and pulse regulated. She stayed around two hours until there was improvement. Charles and I had many special songs over our 65 years of marriage, and one of our favorites was "You Are my Special Angel." Sarah was truly our special angel. Charles, myself, and all four of our kids have gotten to know Sarah well, and love her (as Charles and I would say) "bunches and bunches!" We feel that she is so deserving of the Willow Award, because of her dedication, her selflessness, her kindness, and her compassion. That is why we are nominating her.

Thank you,

The Family of Charles Holley

1938-2023