



December 29, 2022

To: The Willow Award / Smith Family Funeral Homes

RE: Willow Award Nomination

Nurse Karley...

There are so many reasons why Karley is deserving of the Willow Award. The Willow Award is for a caregiver who “bends to accommodate the needs of their patient and family in their storm. Regardless of the challenges that lie ahead, these caregivers are steadfast and resilient to the very end. Like the pliant Willow tree, they will stand back upright and tall ready to care for another patient.”

Karley embodies what it means to be steadfast and resilient. She took care of Gus for over three years, always bringing the same joyous energy into his hospital room. I knew we could always count on Karley to not only take great care of Gus but to also make his hospital stays more enjoyable. She was steadfast. When it came to his end of life care she was resilient, always rising to the challenge of taking great care of our son. She continuously worked hard for Gus, providing a safe environment for him and us. Not only did she make Gus feel safe but more importantly, she made Gus feel loved. Gus loved his nurse Karley back and his love for her was genuine.

At the end of Gus’s life he only wanted to see and talk to a few select people. Karley was one of those people. As his mom, that solidifies to me the type of person Karley is and the love that she has for Gus. Over the years and especially at the end of his life, Karley made sure that Gus’s needs were at the forefront of everything she did. She did her job exceptionally well, while also prioritizing Gus’s comfort. During the last 48 hours of his life, she made Gus laugh. She made sure he knew how loved he was. She took care of him and us. I know, without a shadow of a doubt, that Gus felt her love, her safety, and her joy in those last days of his life and I will forever be thankful to her for that.

Nurse Karley, you are one of a kind. Thank you for taking care of our son.

The Brittons love you.

*Family of Augustus Bo Britton*  
2016-2022

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For all questions, and to nominate your Central Arkansas Caregiver, please email  
[Nominations@SmithFamilyCares.com](mailto:Nominations@SmithFamilyCares.com)