

Volunteer Spotlight

January 2016

Ron Taylor

81 Lifetime Hours

4 months of service to volunteering

Area of Service: Patient Visitor

Why do you choose to volunteer at St. Luke's?

One of my racquetball friends used St Lukes and had a good experience so I thought I would apply to the local hospitals. I needed something to keep me busier, and St Luke's called first. I had no idea I would like being a Patient Visitor so much! I love that every time I leave a room a patient usually has a smile on their faces. They have all been so nice and I enjoy that when I walk in, they perk up and loose that sad look upon hearing I am a volunteer (and not there for any medical reasons). It's nice to be able to just sit and talk to someone who needs cheering up.

Tell me a little about yourself.

I am originally born and raised in the Chicago area. I retired in 1998 after 31 years with Shell as an Alcohol/Chemical blender for pharmaceutical products. We moved to the CR area to be near grandchildren, and never looked back. I have 13 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and 2 more on the way!

What is your most memorable volunteer experience at St. Luke's?

I had a specific patient that I got to see 2x a week for about 5 weeks. It was nice to see a familiar face, for both of us. I even ran into him as I was having my own medical appointment and it felt great to be able to say hi and talk to him and follow his story on his path to getting better.

When you are not volunteering, where can we find you?

I play racquetball and enjoy spending time with children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren!

"Ron Taylor has been a Patient Visitor in our hospital since September and has proven to a great addition to our Patient Visitor family. Right from the start I knew that Ron would have the compassion and friendliness to be a great Patient Visitor. Patient Visitors are so critical to our mission of giving the healthcare we'd like our loved ones to receive. Every day they go into patient rooms and try to make it the best experience possible for that patient and family. Of course, it doesn't hurt that Ron is willing to pick up extra shifts both on a temporary and permanent basis." - Barbara Berns, Volunteer Coordinator

