In Memoriam

Betty L. Funck

March 20, 2014

Betty Funck was born in Marion, Indiana. She graduated from Saint Joe Hospital School of Nursing. She married James Funk. She had four children. In 1958, she took two children who not yet in school, along with a housekeeper, to IU Bloomington so she could earn her B.S. in Nursing. Her oldest daughter stayed at home with her father so that she could attend school. Betty's son was born after she received her degree. Her children say that she helped to pave the way for the women's movement. Not only was she their mother, she was their role model for promoting human rights. In 1969 she was awarded a master's in education from St. Francis College and began teaching at IPFW.

After 18 years of teaching at IPFW, Betty Funck, Associate Professor of Nursing, retired in 1987. She educated scores of nursing students, including many who went on to earn advanced degrees and became leaders in nursing. During her time at IPFW, she mentored Vietnamese women who wanted to earn an associate degree in nursing. She encouraged her female students to reach for their dreams and helped them to overcome hurdles in their personal lives.

Betty was a passionate member of the Allen County Cancer Society and the American Heart Association. Her humor, combined with her compassion made her a beloved teacher, colleague, and nurse. Her students remember her as a woman who expected excellence and helped them achieve that level of excellence.

Betty is survived by three daughters, one son, 10 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. And, hundreds of nurses.