

Making "Prints"

Kim Richards, RN

"I'd like to make footprints in the sands of time before I check out, but you can't make footprints in the sands of time if you're sitting on your butt...unless your intent is to make buttprints in the sands of time."
(Bob Moawad, *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, page 215)

Inertia. Complacency. Ambivalence. As nurse leaders, we cannot afford to "settle in" to these behaviors for long. However, as days turn into months, where does the energy, inspiration and ability to "get stuff done" come from? Are you leaving footprints or buttprints (as in "dragging your butt") in the sands of time?

I want to share this letter from a recipient of the March Newsletter. It is self-explanatory and, with his permission, am honored to share the writer's sentiments with you. He responded to the "flowers for a month" contest...

Hi,

I would like to enter a colleague of mine who is a VP at the Hallmark Health Alliance in Massachusetts; her name is Joan Vitelo and she is the most wonderful, compassionate and caring nurse I have ever known. Joan is a true leader, she respects her staff, cares for them and empowers them in every step of the way. Joan's success is not new; wherever she worked, she was loved by her nurses, who keep in touch with her wherever she goes.

Joan leads by example and she would never ask a nurse to do something that she would not do, as a result it is a pleasure to work with her (not for her) in a true environment of respect and professional nursing. Joan lives in Sudbury, Massachusetts with her

husband Jerry and their dog, Scout. All of them are wonderful friends to many people. I definitely think that Joan deserves the flowers for a month in recognition for her contribution to the nursing profession.

Thank you,

Gaby Cohen RN, M.Ed, CNOR,LNC

Wow. What kind of "prints" are you leaving as your legacy? Way to go, Joan!

Joan wins . . .