

NEW LONDON HOSPITAL HONORS 58 YEAR EMPLOYEE, MAY JONES

New London, N.H., January 18, 2016 - New London Hospital and its Employee Activities Committee recently dedicated a new conference room to May Jones of Wilmot.

May worked for the hospital continuously since 1957, an impressive 58 years!

Most of us would consider retiring long before we reached 80 years old, but not May. Instead, she switched to per diem, and hardly a day went by that she wasn't called to come in to work.

Finally, in 2015, she told the hospital, "I'm 86. It's time!"

When asked how she felt about the dedication, she said, "I feel humble and a little shy about it." But she was obviously thrilled and honored. Longtime friend Barbara Sanborn was able to attend the ceremony along with May's daughter Wanda Hastings, granddaughter Amanda and her mother Carol Jones.

During the ceremony, the committee said, "We will always appreciate the commitment and tremendous effort that May gave to her work during her many years of service. For almost six decades, May was beloved by patients, residents, families, and fellow employees." In fact, Tina Walker, co-chair of the Employee Activities Committee stated, "When the staff was given the opportunity to propose a name for this space, May's was the overwhelming choice."

May is a can-do person. She worked wherever there was a need—assisting nurses in the Medical/Surgical unit or even helping to cook breakfast in the kitchen.

At home she helped her husband Bob with the family farm where they raised two children, and kept cows, horses, and her favorite farm animals, pigs. One big old boy, George, came when she called him and let her lead him around with her arm over his back.

In addition to working at the hospital, May also served as the Wilmot Chief of Police from 1979 to 1982, taking over the position after her husband died.

Now, after retiring at the tender age of 87, May has more time to share with family and friends. She is a member of the Wilmot Ladies Aid Society, helps host the popular monthly CAP Senior Luncheons, bakes cookies for the Society's holiday cookie walk, and dines every week with her extended family.

At the dedication ceremony of the remodeled employee dining room, Bruce King, President and CEO of the Hospital, said that by naming the space after May, her legacy of generosity and dedication will continue. "We want to preserve her story of commitment to this organization and those we help," said King. "With the placing of this plaque, we now dedicate this as the May Jones Conference Room, to be used by staff and others to advance health and wellness in our community."

In commenting after the ceremony, May said, "I would like to thank the New London Hospital community for this honor."

