

A Lifetime of Dedication

Registered Nurse Diane Getty, who works for Home Nursing Services, has been a nurse for over 40 years and has no intentions of slowing down.

article provided by Dorian Maples & Associates • photo by Steve Vorderman

Diane Getty isn't your typical grandma. A Registered Nurse, she works 30-40 hours per week as a home health care nurse, driving a company car to patient homes, documenting her notes on a computer, taking calls on her cell phone, then returning to the office to check her email and meet with her co-workers. At age 73, she has no intentions of slowing down anytime soon. "I love my job. It keeps me busy." But what about the grandkids? "They're all grown up. I'm waiting for the next generation to come along."

Getty is an RN Case Manager with Home Nursing Services, a home health agency owned by local entrepreneurs, Rick and Dorian Maples. Home Nursing Services, along with Angel Corps, First Call Medical Staffing, and Dorian Maples & Associates, is part of a group

of healthcare businesses owned by the Maples. Dorian, herself a Registered Nurse, says "Diane is great. First of all, she is a terrific nurse – very skilled and very caring. She has so much energy. She's my hero."

Getty has the respect of her co-workers, too. In 2008, she was selected by her peers at Home Nursing Services as RN of the Year. Linda Zemanek, a fellow RN Case Manager, who has known Diane since working together for nearly twenty years at Lutheran Hospital before rejoining her at Home Nursing Services several years ago, says "Diane is a wealth of information and is the best IV nurse I have ever worked with." Michele Leffler, RN, who has worked with Diane in home health care since the early 90's describes Getty as "frisky." "Diane takes her job very seriously, but she's fun to work with. And she's an excellent nurse."

So what does this supercharged senior do to relax? She rides her 27-year old horse "Dixie", who she has raised since birth. She and her husband, Clem, take Dixie and "Badger" (Clem's horse) trail riding several times each summer.

Getty says she "always wanted to be a nurse." Her nursing career almost never got off the ground. In 1954, a year out of Central Catholic High School, she enrolled in nursing school. But her new marriage to Clem came with a penalty. "As any nurse my age remembers, nursing school did not allow married students." So, she dropped out, had three children, and when the youngest entered kindergarten, she went back to school and became an RN in 1966. She started at St. Joseph Hospital, then Lutheran Hospital, eventually becoming the head of Oncology and IV Therapy.

After about 25 years of hospital nursing, she decided to try something different. "I wanted to learn what happened to the patients after they left the hospital." So she entered home health care. Almost 20 years later, she's still learning. "In home care, you can get to know the patients because they usually aren't as sick and you spend more time with them. It's more personal. They have a lot of stories to tell. If you keep your eyes and ears open and your mouth shut,

you can learn a lot."

"I like working for a small business like Home Nursing Services." She likes the fact the owners are actively involved and care about their employees. "It's not some big corporation. Rick and Dorian (the owners) show respect for us and it shows in the care we give. If employees like their jobs, it shows in their work."

Will she ever slow down? "I might slow down, but I'll probably never quit. I don't sit very well."•

Address: 528 West Washington Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

704 West 7th Street
Auburn, Indiana 46706

201 East Market Street
Bluffton, Indiana 46714

Owners: Rick and Dorian Maples

Angel Corps

Telephone: (260) 426-4357

Website: www.CorpsOfAngels.com

Years in Business: 8

Number of Employees: 120

Services: Non-medical home care

Home Nursing Services

Telephone: (260) 424-1237

Website: www.InHomeNursingServices.com

Years in Business: 13

Number of Employees: 140

Services: Medical home health care

First Call Medical Staffing

Telephone: (260) 424-1329

Website: www.FirstCallMedStaff.com

Years in Business: 13

Number of Employees: 60

Services: Temporary staffing of health care facilities

Dorian Maples & Associates

Telephone: (260) 918-1141

Website: www.IndianaGeriatrics.com

Years in Business: 6

Number of Employees: 3

Services: Geriatric care management



Home Nursing Service's Diane Getty, RN