



January 29, 2010

Dear Phyl,

We have been intending to send you this letter for some time, but have been caught up caring for my parents. We wanted to officially thank you again for your visit to our home to care for my mom, Kitty Bacsi. As you know when we contacted you, she had recently been diagnosed with metastatic pancreatic cancer and had been given a poor prognosis. Our hearts were heavy with this news.

Your “surprise” visit was just what the doctor ordered! You provided us all with many laughs and helped us make a very special memory. My mother thoroughly enjoyed the stories you shared about her. She spoke of your visit many times in the days and weeks following. Together we would continue to laugh as we reminisced about it.

On December 10th she suffered a massive stroke and was hospitalized at Strong. She was transferred to hospice care and spent her final days at Mt. Carmel House. She had some good days on her journey and my husband was able to hook up his camera to the TV in her room (don’t ask me how!) and we looked at some digital pictures together. When the ones with Kitty and the Reverend Mother popped up on the screen, she had the brightest smile on her face! At Mt. Carmel House they have a “sophisticated” call system. They use an old school bell on the bedside table and we often joked that they must have gotten it from you! That also made her smile at the thought and memory of your visit.

My mom’s journey ended this past Tuesday, and I have finally had a moment to send this off to you. Thank you for your gift that you so graciously shared with our family and friends. You helped us create a very positive memory during a challenging time. You have truly been blessed with a talent to share laughter with people. It is such an important stress reliever and vital part of emotional health. I have always believed this in my professional life as an oncology social worker and now can attest to it in my personal life as a caregiver.

Our family remains truly appreciative and indebted to you.

Fondly,

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