

MEMORIAL

Debbi Tallman

Debbi Tallman passed away on Monday, May 9th, 2016. She did have family and friends at her side at the time of her passing, which is fitting because Debbi was always willing to be at our sides during difficult times in our lives both professionally and personally. Those of who had the opportunity to know Debbi were blessed to know a person with a truly nice soul.

Debbi was a person who valued her privacy, was often too proud to ask for help, but was the first to offer it to any living being that needed it. It really helped if that living being happened to be cute, furry, and smaller than she was, but that didn't preclude her from helping anyone else who was vulnerable and needed her guidance. Debbi loved her cats, her fish, her dogs, and any animal that she had contact with throughout her entire life. In addition to the animals we all know she loved, Debbi also enjoyed gardening. Her backyard most recently was filled with the most beautiful shrubbery and flowers and she also loved growing her own fruits and vegetables.

Debbi treated every student who walked through the doors at Lane Community College like they were family to her and that is what made Debbi so special. There was never a sense about her that this was just a job to her. She was passionate about the work she did and the work that this department does for students. Debbi always strived to treat each person with respect and dignity. This poem was in Debbi's possession when she was taken to the hospital.



The Cross in My Pocket

*I carry a cross in my pocket, A simple reminder to me, Of the fact that I am a Christian, No matter where I may be.
This little cross is not magic, or is it a good luck charm, It isn't meant to protect me, From every physical harm.*

*It's not for identification, For all the world to see, It's simply an understanding, Between my Savior and me.
When I put my hand in my pocket, To bring out a coin or a key, The cross is there to remind me, Of the price he paid for me.
It reminds me too, to be thankful, For the blessings day by day, And to strive to serve him better, In all that I do and say.
It's also a daily reminder, Of the peace and comfort I share, With all who know my master, And give themselves to his care.
So, I carry a cross in my pocket, Reminding no one but me, That Jesus Christ is lord of my life, If only I'll let him be.*

Debbi started working at Lane nearly 25 years ago and was a valued and loved part of Adult Basic & Secondary Education and Lane Community College. During her stay in the hospital it was very apparent to nurses, doctors, and other professional staff just how beloved Debbi was to her friends, family, and co-workers as literally dozens of people visited her. She will be missed.

~~ Scott Bell

