



MARY E. MICHALEK '82

Retired | Allegheny County Health Department | Passavant Hospital

In retirement Mary E. Michalek continues to care for others after more than 40 years as a registered nurse.

After graduating from Independence and Sanitarium School of Nursing in 1956, Ms. Michalek worked as a nurse in pediatric, medical surgery, geriatric, trial medicine and infectious disease settings.

In 1982, she achieved her lifelong goal of obtaining a college degree and received her bachelor's degree in psychology from La Roche College. "My special memory of La Roche would be that the young students accepted me as an equal," she stated.

From 1989 to 1998, Ms. Michalek worked as a staff nurse for infectious diseases for the Allegheny County Health Department, providing both children and adults with flu and vaccine shots for infectious diseases, collecting specimens, and visiting the homes of individuals who had food-borne illnesses.

Ms. Michalek's volunteer experience, which spans five decades, includes service to the Girl Scouts; Mt. Oliver School District; Orchestra Parents of North Allegheny; and Pittsburgh Council for International Visitors, currently known as Global Pittsburgh. Today she is a volunteer for UPMC Passavant, where she has accumulated more than 5,500 volunteer hours transporting patients to x-ray imaging, working as a patient greeter and delivering mail to patient rooms.