



CARLETON PLACE & DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Generations of Caring

Irma Willoughby and Laurie Lewis are a mother/daughter duo who have one very important thing in common - they both knew they wanted to be nurses from a very young age. Their two careers have spanned six decades - from the opening day at Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital right to today.

Irma vividly remembers working the 3:30 shift on February 12, 1955. “We were so excited,” Irma recalls. “We wanted the hospital so badly and people worked very hard to get it.”

In fact, Irma also remembers Dr. McDowell knocking on her front door to invite her to come and work at the new hospital. “He told me he needed me to be there. I had a new baby but he said my Mom could look after him,” she laughs.

Her daughter Laurie followed in her mother’s footsteps. Laurie completed a preceptorship at CPDMH while at nursing school and was hired soon after. She stayed for 37 years, retiring just a few months ago. “I’ve seen lots of changes,” Laurie says. “Carleton Place Hospital is a wonderful place to work.” Laurie retired from her full-time position in September but remains on staff on a casual basis.



Thank you to Irma and Laurie for your years of service caring for patients in our community.