

MEET YOUR *Geriatric Nurse Practitioner...*



KATHRYN MARREN, GNP-BC

WHAT SETS ME APART FROM OTHER PROVIDERS

"I believe it is a privilege to care for older adults and I enjoy working as a nurse practitioner. I strive to ensure that patients are comfortable and have the highest quality of life. On my first day as a nurse practitioner, the head of internal medicine gave this directive to the entire department: I want you to be kind. I want you to be team players. I was hired by a geriatric physician whose command was be nice. I can't forget these instructions."

"I ask my patients what is important to them. I tell them that becoming older does not mean you should be forgetful, sad, have pain, fall, or feel tired all the time. Many problems can be treated so they can get back to enjoying life. Caregivers also need support and understanding; their concerns must be heard and taken care of. Adults in their encore years teach me about keeping life meaningful. I will never forget my neighbor, Blanche, who at age 94 volunteered several days a week. "I'm going out to do some good!" she would say. And I want to do some good, too!"

MS: Maryville University School of Nursing, St. Louis, MO

BS: University of Missouri School of Nursing, Columbia, MO

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS: American Geriatrics Society

CERTIFICATION: State of Illinois Registered Professional Nurse, State of Illinois Advanced Practice Nurse, Gerontological Nurse Practitioner ANCC Certification

DEPARTMENT OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE

In the Department of Geriatric Medicine, Kathryn collaborates with Dr. Karleen McNeal and diagnoses and treats patients in nursing homes.

Kathryn really enjoys gardening; she has raised beds with vegetables and flowers. She also enjoys playing the piano, especially music from the 30's and 40's. Her husband Jeff is a business professor at EIU, and she has two daughters, Alaina and Kelly. Kathryn also has a grandson, Liam who loves picking raspberries from her garden.

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