



## FINGER LAKES NURSE HONOR GUARD

RUTH BENJAMIN RN, GERO-BC, CRRN, CDDN, CHPN  
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF FLNHG



## OUR MISSION

- The Finger Lakes Nurse Honor Guard is privileged to recognize and honor those who have dedicated their lives to serving others in their chosen profession as a nurse during the last season of their life and/or at the end of their life journey.
- The honor guard's presence provides meaningful recognition and honor to a nurse that has passed and in hopes of easing the grief of their family members, loved ones and colleagues.





# WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BE HONORED BY THE NURSE HONOR GUARD?

- Any active or retired licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, or nurse practitioner when asked to do so by family.
- This might happen through direct contact with known family
- Through funeral home director or clergy
- As a result of reviewing area obituaries and contacting the appropriate people



## TRIBUTE CEREMONIES CAN BE HELD IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS

- Memorial Service
- Funeral Home
- Gravesite
- Church or place of worship





## LIVING TRIBUTES

- A living tribute can be done for a nurse who is elderly, medically frail, or receiving hospice services
  - Nursing home setting
  - Hospital setting
  - Hospice setting
  - Home setting

# TRIBUTE CEREMONIES INCLUDE:

- Nurses dress in traditional white uniform with white hosiery or socks, and white shoes.
- Woman's uniform is completed wearing a cap and cape and white gloves
- Men may wear a navy-blue scrub top to match woman's cape
- Nurse procession into the front of the church or funeral home with lit candles

## Ttribute

- There is placement of a white rose on the casket near the urn or presented to the family
- The white rose exemplifies honor and appreciation to the nurse's devotion to their chose profession
- A blue carnation on the casket or near the urn representing peace and serenity







# TRIBUTE CEREMONY INCLUDES CONTINUED

- Presenting of the nightingale lantern to family
- Last call
- Nurses Prayer
- Nurses will be seated or will process out of the church or funeral home will occur

\*\*\*Nurse Honor Guard may be asked to be present at casket or participate as an honorary pallbearer by the family

# PREPARATIONS

- Cultural and spiritual diversities are discussed with family, funeral director and/or clergy prior to the service
- Bio of nurse will be written and read at the family's request
- Obtain picture of the nurse being honored for picture frame
- Create assignments for nurses participating in honor ceremony—who is speaking, who carrying nightingale lantern, who will carry and ring chimes for last call, who will carry in and place the white rose and blue carnation on the casket, near urn or present to family





# OTHER SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Tributes to recognize and honor  
nurses in their last season of life  
and/or at the end of their life journey

Community outreach

Speaking engagements

Fundraising

Nurses supporting nurses



# HOW THE HONOR GUARD SERVICES ARE OBTAINED

- Funeral home, clergy or family will call or e-mail President and Founder of FLNHG to request services



# WHAT'S NEEDED TO JOIN THE FINGER LAKES NURSE HONOR GUARD?

- Each member will follow the bi-laws of the organization as written and agreed up by its members
- Purchase of white uniform in full and cape-cap and gloves are provided for women., men may wear a navy-blue scrub shirt to match the woman's cape
- Commitment to at least 2 in person meetings per year for hands on practice of service
- Attendance of 6 services a year is highly encouraged
- 35.00 annual dues

