

Nominated by: Anthony DePalma



My stay at Phelps was relatively brief, just one night and two days. But those days were among the most frightful and confusing days in our lifetime. The COVID-19 virus was spreading throughout the world, businesses were closing, borders slamming shut and nobody knew what would happen next. In the midst of so much uncertainty, Stephen was an island of calm professionalism and genuine kindness. I had just had a total hip replacement done, perhaps the last elective surgery at Phelps before they were stopped to deal with the emergency. Stephen and every other member of the hospital staff wore masks and my wife was not allowed to accompany me to 2-Center for my recovery. I have been very fortunate in my life and I'd never been hospitalized before now. I

faced my first night in a hospital bed alone surrounded by people whose faces I could not see.

Stephen was on duty as I was asleep. He administered my IV, checked the massage units on my legs and made sure I was comfortable. His shift ended and Mary came on to help. Then Tuesday morning, Stephen returned. His calm demeanor kept everything going smoothly-medication, PT, meals and finally discharge, where he really proved how competent and professional, he was. I couldn't see because he wore his mask through it all, but I sensed that he did his work with a smile.