

Farewell Jo



breathlessness. On both occasions he came under the care on Sister Jo on A&E resus. What a remarkable lady! On the first occasion I was struck by her calmness in very stressful circumstances. Jo was balancing the needs of a very large demanding family and an aggressive patient whilst maintaining her composure. She kept us informed at all

On the 3rd March, Jo Gillard, Senior Sister in our Accident and Emergency Department was presented with an 'Every Thank You Counts' certificate by Susan Acott, Chief Executive. This presentation coincided with Jo's last day at Darent Valley Hospital before she moves to sunny Spain.

Jo received her award following a letter received by the Trust which said:

"My late husband was under the care of the clinicians at Darent Valley Hospital having been diagnosed with an aggressive form of lymphoma which sadly did not respond to treatment. During the many months of his treatment he had a great deal of contact with the nursing staff at Darent Valley Hospital who provided him with such wonderful care. One of nurses I would particularly like to commend is Jo Gilliard.

Toward the end of my husband's life he was brought to A&E on two occasions due to his

stages of what to expect in terms of his care and even found time to provide me with a place to lay my head.

On the second occasion my husband was critically ill. Jo showed such compassion to me and my family. She managed to create this haven of peace in a busy resus room. Once we knew my husband was dying Jo arranged for him to be put in a bed and for all invasive treatments to cease so he appeared totally at rest, as if he were at home. Once he had passed away we were closeted in the relative's room and allowed time to grieve and overcome our tragic loss."

Jo said "I am just so sad to be leaving such a wonderful team, they are best I have ever worked with, I will miss every single one of them and I will be popping back to see you all often."

We wish Jo the very best of luck with her new adventure in Spain.