



## A Patient's Generosity And Courage

### PATIENT STORY

## SUSAN WHITENER

"It's not a gift. It's like paying it forward to help other people. I wish it could be more."

Susan Whitener became a patient at Coweta Samaritan Clinic about five years ago. "When I came here, I was blessed. It wasn't like coming into a doctor and being scared. I knew I would have the time I needed. If something was not right, Rhonda [Rhonda Whitton, Nurse Practitioner] would make sure I had a test and check it out. This feels like home to me."

When Susan had a devastating car wreck two years ago, she was life-flighted to Atlanta Medical Center where she stayed for 29 days. "You can tell people you've been in an accident, but until you see the picture of the car, they don't get it. I don't remember the flight, the helicopter, nothing."

"It must have been a week after I got out of the hospital, I saw Rhonda. I was still in a wheel chair. I saw the look on her face when she saw me—she was shocked. Amy [Amy Kelly, Piedmont Newnan Community Case Manager] did a lot of talking with my daughter, as did Rhonda." Susan describes adapting to her new limitations, "This is the new Susan. You have to take me as I am, it's not my fault. I finally got that through my head."

"When I got Social Security and Medicare, I couldn't come to Coweta Samaritan Clinic anymore, and I cried. This was my family, and they supported me for everything and anything. They never treated me like I was indigent. Instead the feeling was that it's okay, we have your back." Amy helped Susan transition to Dr. Erika Martinez-Uribe, a Piedmont Newnan Internist, who now manages her care.

Susan's health issues remain challenging. But when she received accident insurance proceeds about a month ago, she returned to donate a substantial check. "I told Rhonda way back that if I'm ever able, I'm going to give back to Coweta Samaritan Clinic while I can. It's not a gift. It's like paying it forward to help other people. I wish it could be more. I still come see Rhonda because I don't want to lose that contact. She was my lifeline when I didn't have insurance. She made sure that I got what I needed. And not just her, but all the people she sent me to through the Clinic."

Let it be so for our other neighbors in need. Thank you, Susan, for the privilege of serving you. May we all learn from your generosity and your courage.



(L) Susan Whitener  
(R) Amy Kelly

### OUR MISSION

To provide high-quality, compassionate healthcare in a faith-based environment for Coweta County residents in need

### OUR VISION

A healthier community where adults in need have access to high-quality healthcare

### BE A PART OF OUR MISSION

- Mail your tax-deductible donation to:  
Coweta Samaritan Clinic, P.O. Box 963, Newnan, GA 30264
- Donate securely at [CowetaSamaritanClinic.org](https://CowetaSamaritanClinic.org)
- Call us to learn about volunteer opportunities 770-683-5272
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