



Nuts & Bolts



August 2009

Dear Friend of Habitat KC,

Six and one half years ago, I started working at Habitat for Humanity Kansas City. I was familiar to the nonprofit sector, having served for 13 years, but I was still overwhelmed by the spirit of volunteerism. Little did I know, I would be further amazed. I remember walking around meeting everyone and then I came across Marty. Marty Singleton that is! What an amazing woman she turned out to be.



What was so amazing? Marty had been with Habitat Kansas City as a volunteer from almost the very beginning. She was at Habitat when the first house was built on 29th and Paseo and she was here as we crossed the threshold of 200 homes, again, not as a paid staff person but as a volunteer. I was soon to find out that not only was Marty witty, sarcastic and just plain funny, but she was the Habitat historian. She could give you the names of original homeowners and tell you their stories.

After more than 25 years, Marty Singleton has decided that she is ready to retire from full-time volunteerism. She is ready to kick back and enjoy her children and grandchildren as she should. She has given countless hours to Habitat and to the families we serve. She has earned an honorary place in the hearts of our homeowners and our donors and more importantly in the hearts of the people she has taught the true meaning of serving. When people come by, they always ask "is Marty still here?" I would always chuckle and say "yes, of course, Marty is still here".

I don't look forward to the day when I have to say, "Marty is no longer here." So, I won't even think about it. Marty has agreed to come by on an "as needed" basis, for which I am grateful. I'm not ready for her to leave just yet. She came by the office today and it brought a huge smile to my face...I said, "Hey honey bunny!" and she smiled and answered, "Hey honey bunny." Marty Singleton...my friend, my favorite volunteer and Habitat historian...I love you!

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