

From Tragedy to Triumph

Twenty- three years ago, I dropped out of nursing school due to my father committing suicide and the trauma of his death caused me to lose my unborn child. Unfortunately, she experienced another personal crisis years later when her husband suffered a major heart attack. She credits the quick thinking of the doctors and nurses for his survival. “He survived because of the education,” Cheryl Cotton, PN Graduate, Reid State Technical College.

She turned her tragedy into triumph when she enrolled at Virginia College to study nursing. Her dream of becoming a nurse was almost stifled again when Virginia College closed suddenly! However, she didn’t give up on her dreams and met with Reid State’s Director of Nursing. She completed the required paperwork and began school shortly thereafter. She’s thankful for receiving support from the Brewton Career Center.



Cheryl Cotton (right) receives her practical nursing degree from Reid State Technical College.

Cotton is appreciative to everyone for helping her fulfill her dreams. “If I hadn’t had that help from ALCC, I would not have been able to complete this school. My heart is full. Thank you so much to the Nursing Staff at Reid State and Ms. Terri Murph and the rest of the staff at ALCC for all you have done for me!”

Submitted by:
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