

Sacred Stories



Truckstop

By Jo Miller

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A couple from the Pacific Northwest drove across the country for most of their working lives. They were retired, but still needed to earn money, so they turned to what they knew best and drove trucks again. They planned their trips in such a way that they could work in a little sightseeing along the way. In fact, after delivering a shipment on the east coast, they took the honeymoon they never had. After the honeymoon, they picked up a shipment for delivery to the west coast and started heading that direction. The wife's stomach began to trouble her. She figured it would clear up, and she wasn't a complainer. But, when they reached Lincoln, Nebraska, they stopped. Thanks to helpful folks at a clinic, they learned they could drive their long bed truck into one of St. Elizabeth's parking lots.

It turned out to be a lifesaving "truckstop" for the woman. She had serious heart problems that were life threatening. The couple was amazed by the doctors, nurses and social workers who made numerous phone calls to get information from the hospital back home. "I didn't want to be in the hospital, but I couldn't have picked a better one," the wife told everyone. "I had no idea we landed in a top 100 hospital, but I know that when it comes to care, St. Elizabeth has got to be number one!"

The woman said she would spread the word among truck drivers: "if you get sick on the road and you're anywhere near Lincoln, go to St. Elizabeth. You can't get better care anywhere in the country!"