Tributes paid to rheumatology nurse

Tributes have been paid by colleagues of a long-serving Colchester nurse who has died following a short illness.

Joy Lozano, a rheumatology nurse specialist, died on 24 March at Colchester General Hospital, where she had been based for the past 13 years. She also supported a weekly clinic at Clacton Hospital.

Ms Lozano, who was 60 and lived in Braintree, leaves two sons, Michael, 36, and Kevin, 34, and a six-year-old grandson, Luis.

Colleague and long-term friend Sister Paula Kick said: “She was held in great affection by the staff and the patients, and her warmth, easy manner and calm efficiency will be missed by us all.

“She was dedicated to her patients, hard-working and caring, and was a very gentle person who never had a cross word to say about anyone.”

Many patients had already expressed their shock and sadness on learning of Ms Lozano’s death, she added.

Louise Notley, Matron, Specialist Medicine, said: “Joy is going to be difficult, if not impossible, to replace because she had so much knowledge about her subject.

“She had cared for some of her patients regularly over a period of many years and enjoyed a fantastic relationship with them.”

Before coming to Colchester General Hospital, Ms Lozano had worked at the former Black Notley Hospital, where she had been a ward sister.

Her funeral will be held on Friday 9 April, at 10am, at the Oakfield Wood green burial ground at Wrabness. Although a request has been made for flowers from family members only, colleagues and patients are welcome to attend.

In addition, anyone wishing to make a donation in her memory to Cancer Research UK is asked to send their cheques to: Sister Paula Kick, Gainsborough Day Unit, Gainsborough Wing, Colchester General Hospital, Turner Road, Colchester CO4 5JL.

1 April 2010