

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

## Betty Spease



Betty Spease has a lot of experience volunteering. She started as a candy striper at the Reading Hospital when she was a young girl, then at Berks Heim when a family member was there. It was a conscious decision of Betty's to participate in helping others because she lives by the credo, "Give and ye shall receive." She has been giving some her time

to others for most of her life.

Born and raised in Berks County, Betty took care of her family while holding down a full-time job. With plenty of energy and a firm believer in community, she made sure to instill strong values in her daughter and grandchildren. Keeping close ties to family is important to Betty, but so is

community service. "People need help," Betty says. "They need visitors when they're sick, they need someone to talk to."

And, Berks Encore has benefitted from her wonderfully social personality at the Mifflin Center in Shillington.

"She always has something interesting to say. I could talk with her for hours," says Tina Snyder, Center Manager. "Talking with the seniors and keeping them company is just as important to me as packing Meals on Wheels. I want everybody to be happy here and everybody

is happy when Betty's around."

Betty is 78 years young, as she likes to say, and wonders how anyone can just sit around, not participating in life. Always looking for a dance partner, Betty knows that exercise is important. Activity is how she thrives, walking every day, out dancing once a week (besides waltzing around in her living room). Socializing isn't everything for Betty, compassion is her thing. People need compassion, and she knows it.

*By Emily Garb,  
Development Assistant*

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