



## Stacia Soliday comes home to Lincoln Hospital



Most of us remember Stacia Soliday from her days on the high school basketball court. Who could forget the back-to-back State-B Champion Davenport Gorillas or their fearless leader — point guard Stacia Mariott? No one who saw them in action.

All of 5-foot-5, Stacia ran the dynamic Gorilla offense with the grit and determination of a four-star general. A pure shooter, she was everywhere — canning the three, setting the pick, snagging the rebound and directing the traffic. Although a natural athlete, Stacia's true talent lies in her ability to inspire confidence. Stacia refused to even consider defeat. Her team followed to victory.

Over ten years later, that same resolve and leadership came home to Lincoln Hospital and North Basin Medical Clinics as Stacia signed on as a Nurse Practitioner.

"When I started school to become a Nurse Practitioner, I hoped to work at Lincoln Hospital," says Stacia, noting she and husband Monty (RHS 1994) have land west of Harrington and will be building a house in the next few years. "We wanted to be near our family and I really like the small towns."

Not only does she want to raise her family in a small town, but she wants her medical practice to have a life of its own. "I want to see my patients outside of the clinic. To run into them at the store and the ballgame. I like *knowing* people, not just treating them with the thought that I'll never see them again, so I *hope* I make a difference."

Hope isn't enough for Stacia. She wants to be certain.

"I want to make a community difference, like Susan Eastman does in Reardan," she says. "Everyone knows her. They love and trust her. She takes the time to listen and educate them about their health at each visit." In short, Susan has inspired the confidence of a community. "That's what I want too."

And Stacia works hard to make her dreams come true.

"When I was in the fifth grade, my appendix ruptured and I spent over a week in the hospital," she recalls. "I knew then that I wanted to be a doctor."

But also wanting to be a wife and mother, Stacia found another way to fulfill her dream.

"I didn't want to do the whole medical school thing, but I knew I wanted to see patients in a clinical setting — have my own practice." In short, nursing wasn't enough and being a doctor was too much. "Being a Nurse Practitioner was the right fit."

Stacia says she likes the responsibilities that come along with the title "Practitioner."

"I wanted to be able to diagnose illness and prescribe medications. I like taking the time to educate and work with patients on how to get better and to see results. This is a great setting to do that."

Although Stacia will be doing general family practice, she does have special interest in women's health. "I would love to follow my patients from even before they have children, through their lives all the way to hormone replacement. That's exciting to me."

Stacia says as a Nurse Practitioner, she's been trained to look at her patients holistically. "I like taking the time to look at life situations like jobs and family and how they affect health. And making people responsible for their health. That's important. I can't solve all their problems for them."

But she will inspire patients to be part of the solution. "I like being the point guard. I can give them the plan, but they have to follow it."

Stacia is a Certified Breast Examiner and is working at becoming a Certified Diabetes Educator.