

March 14, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to recommend Barbara Duncan for any position as caregiver that she may be applying for.

For the past three Ms. Duncan has been the primary caregiver for my seventy-two year old sister, who has Alzheimer's. The patient's ability to function independently has declined severely during this period, as part the inevitable course of this terrible disease.

Throughout, Barbara's kindness, compassion and integrity have shown through, as she negotiates not only my sister's care, but also the complex relationships within our family, as we mourn the loss. No matter what the situation, Barbara is patient and gentle, though firm when necessary, with all of us.

In addition, Barbara has gone to great lengths to educate herself concerning the disease itself, with all its ramifications. I have no doubt that she would do the same for any area of knowledge that would assist her in a particular caregiver situation. And, of course, Barbara is consistently on time, reliable and appropriate in her conduct.

But the most important thing to say about Barbara is that a quality of centered loving-kindness characterizes everything she does as she goes about performing this complex task of caring for an adult whose capacities are diminishing. She has never treated my sister with anything but the dignity and respect to which she is entitled, after a long life of contributing to the world. Now it is my sister's time to receive help rather than to offer it to others. I cannot think of anyone in whose hands I would rather that she be, other than Barbara Duncan.

Please don't hesitate to call me at the above number, if you have any questions about this letter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Rhine