



March 8, 2001

Captain Robert Duncan
Florida Highway Patrol
1551 E. International Speedway Boulevard
DeLand, Florida 32724

Dear Captain Duncan:

I am compelled to write concerning Lt. Kevin Vaughn. It's not often we think of a trooper in the manner I'm going to describe to you.

On February 6, 2002 during the early morning hours a dearly loved friend and fellow co-worker, Joan Wood, was involved in a wreck. Lt. Vaughn responded to the call for help. Unfortunately, Joan was trapped in the car, but she remained responsive. Lt. Vaughn provided comfort and spiritual care while others worked to free her from the wreck. His prayers offered Joan comfort and hope for healing during their intense time.

Lt. Vaughn made a phone call to the hospital that awakened fears that we would not have considered. Wrecks, trauma, life flights are things we consider everyday, but not as a victim. Several phone calls from Lt. Vaughn kept the hospital family informed regarding Joan's condition.

Unfortunately, Joan died a short time later leaving a hole in our team. Our hospital team is left to grieve the loss of our dearly loved friend. Lt. Vaughn took time from his duties to visit with us the following day to provide comfort and reassurance. We feel Joan was indeed fortunate to have Lt. Vaughn with her.

Joan was a miracle of life as all are who give themselves to the care of those who are suffering. Lt. Vaughn made a difference in all the lives he touched that day. For this we will be eternally grateful and comforted by the fact the Florida Highway Patrol has such compassionate troopers as Lt. Vaughn.

Sincerely,

Ellen Hillyer, RN, BS
Director of Nursing, Acute Care

cc: Lt. Kevin Vaughn

