

Janice Dudley, Associate of Applied Science, 1971-1977

Years Attended: 1971-77

Area of Study: Assoc. of Applied Science

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Janice writes:

"I am semi-retired. I worked for Yavapai College for several years (Athletic Department, Registrar's Office, Student Services and first full-time Nursing Education secretary). I worked for 2 years for the Central Yavapai Fire Direct as their first bookkeeper and payroll clerk.

In 1980, I began working at the VA hospital (now called Northern Arizona VA Health Care System) as a ward secretary, then a transcriptionist, an executive secretary, then a ICC-9 coder and then in Information Technology as a computer specialist. I also created the NAVAHCS intranet site and their logo. I retired from the VA in January of 2005. I now work part-time as a medical transcriptionist for Yavapai Regional Medical Center. While at Yavapai, I was one of the first women to get an athletic scholarship (I played volleyball, basketball and softball, with softball being my passion). I also fought for women's right with Title IX and attended all of the board meetings regarding women's rights to have school-funded athletics. We went from not being able to have a male coach on the bench (for basketball) and having to drive home from games (not being able to stay overnight due to budget constraints), to being treated equally starting in the 1980s.

I loved going to school at Yavapai. I also loved working there. My fondest memories have to do with the Athletic Department and working for Lynn Merritt. I also remember going to the NJCAA National Softball tournament in Fort Dodge, Iowa. I also remember when our drill team (they wore these funny looking outfits to represent Rough Riders) was invited to perform at Glendale CC. Their drill team, at the time, wore hot pants and

black knee-high boots. Yavapai used the old-fashioned record player for the music (Glendale was upscale using a cassette player). Well, our girls were on the floor at half time ready to do their performance; however, the record player didn't work. The girls just stood there for about 5 minutes with smiles on their faces and pom-poms on their hips. Needless to say, they ran off the court and didn't come back for the rest of the game.

All of the instructors were great. Mrs. Merritt was a real gem. You could talk to her about anything. Also, Kimo Miles and Ken Abbott positively impacted me while I was at the College. Lynn and Ken used to pull pranks on each other. One time, Mrs. Merritt got a hold of some "personal" item from Dr. Abbott's locker and hung it from the basketball hoop in the gym. Another time, Kimo Miles was catching for the softball team (without a chest protector or mask) and got slammed in the chest with a softball that had been thrown through a pitching machine. He tried to be cool and macho, but finally had to sit down to catch his breath (he ended up with a bruise that lasted for a couple of weeks).

I've got a bunch of stories but there isn't enough space or time to tell them all."