



VIRTUAL HOMECOMING 2020

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES

*“You can absolutely do anything you want to do. The world needs you to be you. Find your heart and passion, strive for it, and don’t let anything slow you down. Don’t let money drive you, passion is the key to be able to work in a field that you love and enjoy and want to do. Education is the vehicle to get you there. Find a mentor, let them guide you. Have faith over fear. God and you have this.”*

~ Lynn Van Pelt Fletcher

### Lynn Van Pelt Fletcher, '81, '83

Native to Las Cruces, Lynn has an extensive background in the medical field that reflects her passion and drive to help people and improve her community. Whether contributing to the nursing community, NMSU, the state of New Mexico, the city of Las Cruces or the community of cancer survivors, she puts her heart and soul into everything she does.

Lynn first earned her Associate’s and Bachelor’s in Nursing at NMSU, and then went on to complete her Master’s in Business Administration.

She began her career as a Pediatric Nurse and Pediatric Cardiology Nurse Specialist at the Texas Children’s Hospital. After moving back to New Mexico, she took on a role as the Director of Women’s and Children’s Services for Lovelace Health Systems, and not long after was promoted to Chief Nursing Officer. Lynn is currently the Executive Director of the Memorial Medical Cancer Center and has dedicated her life and career to cancer education and research. Mentoring several nursing students at the cancer center every semester, Lynn has also worked closely with NMSU as President of Cowboys for Cancer Research for nearly a decade, raising millions of dollars for cancer research.

Her impact on New Mexico healthcare has earned her many awards including the Nursing Excellence Award in both Leadership and Community Service; Mercy Award from Memorial Medical Center; Hispano Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year; and the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Impact Award.

Lynn demonstrates her Aggie pride by serving on the athletics board and planning committees, guest lecturing and offering her horse regularly for NMSU events. Lynn worked with the College of HSS to create their “Living Wall”, an exciting project and historical display of several generations of nursing for NMSU. Lynn has also been involved in dozens of community and national societies, professional organizations and committees in nursing, pediatrics, family advocacy and domestic violence. She is a founding member of the Immunization Coalition for the State of New Mexico.

Lynn and her husband Dale have been so generous in opening their home to both students and patients in need. They also mentor NMSU student athletes and teach them how to ride and care for horses. Lynn has many family members, including her parents and children, who have shared their love and dedication to education as fellow Aggie alumni.