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Carolyn Adams retires from NGTC

After sixteen years serving Stephens and Franklin Counties at North Georgia Technical College, Carolyn Adams is retiring.

“We have made a lot of changes through the years, and I’ve seen it all,” she says, recounting her days from early times in the Toccoa Center to the current Currahee Campus. “I’ve done a little bit of everything whenever they needed me: admissions, financial aid, inventory, budget, cashier, receptionist, placement testing, and even chasing birds out of the old building in Toccoa.”

Her colorful stories paint a picture of love for the community and the students that have walked through the doors over time. Though she worked for several other companies in the Toccoa area including Coats & Clark and Gilbert & Bennett Fencing, you can tell that her heart has been with the college.

“I came to the Currahee Campus for the first time in May of 2005 when it was still in construction,” she says. “There were no phones, no carpets, no chairs, no tables, but we worked hard for the next few months and the first class started on this campus on July 5, 2005.”

At the small soiree for her retirement, many of her previous supervisors came to wish her good luck including Sammy Howe, Judy Taylor, and George Sanders. “It was so good to see all of them,” she said. “My mother couldn’t believe how many people came by that day.” Carolyn’s mother, Hattie Simmons, also lives in the Toccoa area.

“I have enjoyed working with the students,” Carolyn said. “It makes it really worthwhile to help a student who comes in scared to death of computers and you can convince them that they will not tear them up, make the computer explode or start making sparkers. Then the student comes and thanks you and asks if they can give you a hug, this is what makes the job worthwhile.”

Carolyn’s husband, Phillip, will be retiring from Patterson Pump in June and the pair plan to travel through the country, particularly to Colorado to see their grandchildren.

“I sure have enjoyed my time working with Carolyn,” said Currahee Campus Director Greg Roach. “She was invaluable to me as a rookie administrator. In my ineptness, I often had to rely on Carolyn’s experience and
expertise. I could always count on her to get the job done. We’ll miss here, but I know she’ll be back from time to time, especially for the Currahee Café lunches. She is the primary food critic for the Culinary program. The Chef’s Bladowski know she will give them an honest opinion. That is one of many traits about Carolyn we will all miss but we do wish her well in retirement.”

For more information on the Currahee Campus of North Georgia Technical College, call 706-779-8100 or visit the website at www.northgatech.edu.

Picture: Carolyn Adams

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