

A HIDDEN gem

Holly Owen's career in the US Air Force took her all around the globe, including Washington, DC, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Germany and a stint in the Middle East during Operation Desert Storm. Now a nurse at Angel Medical Center in Franklin, Holly says the small town of Franklin and surrounding community in North Carolina is the most beautiful place she's ever lived.

Between leaving the Air Force and pursuing a second career in nursing, Holly ran a family business for 15 years in gem mining and jewelry here in the "Gem Capital of the World." But her calling was always to the medical field. Drawn by a desire to help people, Holly pursued her lifelong interest in medicine.

At Angel Medical Center, Holly found exactly the kind of supportive, close-knit medical center she wanted—one that is recognized as a vital support system for her family, friends and neighbors. Her experience in management and leading others made her a quick study, and soon after joining the emergency department staff, Holly was promoted to night charge nurse.

Energized by the thrill of emergency care, Holly also serves as a volunteer firefighter and first responder in her community, and is on the State Medical Deployment Team for FEMA. That combined experience led her recently to move from the emergency department into a specialized role to oversee Infection Prevention for both Angel Medical Center and Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, a sister facility within Mission Health. It's an example of the advancement opportunities Holly says her leaders have "provided on a silver platter" for the taking.

With a job she loves, in a place she loves, Holly knows she's found a treasure in these mountains.

There's a place for you in the mountains.

Explore more stories like Holly's and learn how you can find yourself with Mission Health at mission-health.org/OurNursingStory.

