



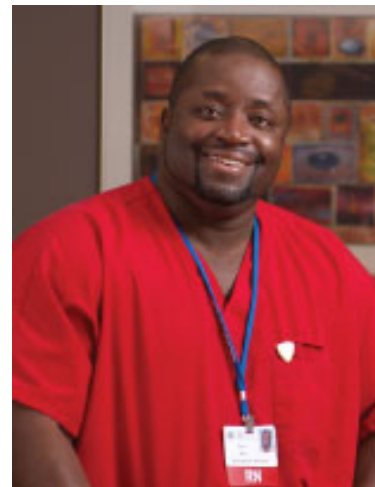
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Mennonite College of Nursing

Eric Tapley, B.S.N. Heartland Emergency Specialists, LLC Endowed Scholarship

Eric Tapley was recruited to Illinois State University from Harper High School in the Southside of Chicago to play football. He was a three year starter, and graduated in 1983 with a degree in Physical Education. He later pursued a second degree at Mennonite College of Nursing. He received a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing in 1997.

Eric pursued a career in Emergency Nursing at Advocate BroMenn Medical Center Emergency Department in Normal, Illinois, OSF Saint Francis Emergency Department in Peoria, Illinois, and OSF Saint Joseph Emergency Department in Bloomington, Illinois. He was a wonderful, cherished emergency nurse helping to save hundreds of lives.



Eric Tapley

His attitude was always helping – his patients, co-workers, family and friends. He was described as extraordinary, amazing, fun, loving, genuine and always positive. His amazing never ending smile could light up any day.

The significance of music and service in Eric's life was a reflection of the love he had for his family, his friends and life.

Eric founded Nothin' But The Blues Festival in Bloomington-Normal. He also was involved in numerous organizations and boards including Planned Parenthood, Wendell Foundation, Family Community Resource Center, The Javon Project, Blues Blowtorch Society, Brothers on Campus, Cush Masonic Lodge 25 AF and AM.

Eric was an enthusiastic nurse who fostered camaraderie among his fellow nurses and emergency team. He always put the patient first and never grumbled when the work was busy, difficult or sad. He just worked harder. He will be missed for his laughter, smile, colorful scrubs but most of all his heart. With fondness and respect, we establish the Eric Tapley B.S.N. – Heartland Emergency Specialists, LLC Scholarship in his name.