

Unit 5 Vocational Training Center

Est. 2010

Inspiration



Dianne Marie Decker– 12/23/1959-11/5/2009

Dianne was the 2nd oldest daughter of Leonard and Peggy Decker. Before losing her battle to cancer, she greeted everyone with a firm handshake and a big smile. She especially loved Elvis Presley, puzzles, magazines, and music. Dianne inspired her sister Jane Collins (Decker) to become a Special Education Teacher. Dianne moved to Normal in 2006 with her mother Peggy Decker to live closer to Jane and her family. Dianne participated in the Developmental Training Program at the Occupational Developmental Center (ODC) and loved the time she spent with her new friends until the closing of ODC in 2009. The friends she met at ODC meant the world to Dianne and her family. ODC was the first program she actively participated in since graduating from Speed Development Center, Chicago Heights, at age 21. It is because of Dianne's love for ODC and her love of watching her sister Jane teach that the Vocational Coordinators of Unit 5 opened the Unit 5 Vocational Training Center in 2010, named Decker Industries in honor of Dianne.



Photo taken, December 2010



Jane Collins, vocational coordinator for Unit 5, talked with Jeffrey Sapp-Paris, a senior at Normal Community West High School, about post-secondary education options during his job training class at the district's Vocational Training Center, Monday, December 6, 2010. (The Pantagraph, David Proeber)