

Outstanding Alumni Award 2021

Cheryl Garmon, DNP, RN is the director of the Heaton Laser and Surgery Center in Tyler. She started as a diploma nurse at Texas Eastern School of Nursing and continued her education and advancement in service and leadership roles. She is a graduate of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs at The University of Texas at Tyler. She has spent her nursing career serving in medical-surgical, case management, and leadership roles with her career split between Trinity Mother Frances Hospital and Heaton Laser and Surgery Center. Her quality of care and compassion toward her patients are evident, as is her leadership in the community. She exhibits excellence in practice, trains others to exhibit care and compassion, and mentors others to be all that they can be. Dr. Garmon also is a member of the National Black Nurses Association, a board member of the Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County, and has helped implement sustainable, evidence-based intervention to help increase the well-being of Alzheimer's caregivers. She is a champion for mentoring others and works to support those around her with a servant leadership style of leading. She is a true asset to the profession of nursing and worthy of the honor of being named the 2021 Outstanding Alumni Award Winner.

Here is what her nomination stated:

“Her leadership in the African-American community is evident in her CV, but she usually prefers to stay in the background and influence others by her example. The respect she elicits from the medical community is evident through her steady advancement in the profession. She can immediately be recognized in any setting- She is the one with the warm smile and quick outreach. She would be an excellent choice as well.”