



Faces of Marianjoy

Marianjoy is comprised of associates that come from many varied cultures, backgrounds and experiences. We value these differences as we firmly believe it makes us stronger as an organization.

Associate Name: Curtis F Smith

Department: Nursing 2 East Brain Injury

- **What is your country of origin or the country of origin of your ancestors?**
My country of origin in the US my maternal grandparents are from Africa/to Oklahoma and Ireland. My paternal ones are from the US Arkansas and Illinois.
- **What specific aspects from your culture or background that would you like to share?**
This would relate to the teachings of my great grandmother stating “treat others the way you would like to be treated.” This keeps my family grounded and enables us to endure great adversity.
- **Are there specific days or times of the year that are considered special or sacred – if so, why?**
Sunday’s have always been a big thing for my family. Everyone gets together for Sunday dinner. You can bring something, but don’t bring sweet potato pies. That is my mother special thing, and no one can make them like her.
- **What are some of your family customs that you recall from your childhood (or from current times)?**
Family time-always find time for your family. Something that they will carry with them always like everyone having dinner together, or TV time- everyone sitting together to see the same corny show that NO ONE wants to see. These things stay with you forever!!!
- **Are there dietary preferences, special recipes or other traditions around food or food preparation, if so, please describe?**
The sweet potato pie recipe will stay with momma, but I think I know some of it, I just can’t get the timing right. I have mastered her peach cobbler recipe.
- **What languages are spoken or written?**
English but some of my uncles had a little flavor on the spoken form. I think it was very cool sounding (must have been how they picked up their wives).
- **Is there anything else you would like to share that you feel is important in order to attain a better understanding of your culture?**
We might try to keep in mind that Darwinian thinkers claim that it is the differences in us all that make the human creature so unique and strong. Then if we were all one type we would have already become extinct.