



Johnnie Vigil
Supervisor
Pueblo, CO
Great Midwest Region

Johnnie's Career Path

- 1983 – Orderly, Plasma Center
- 1985 – Phlebotomist, Plasma Center
- 1987 – Supervisor, Plasma Center
- 1997 – Phlebotomist, LabCorp
- 2001 – Float, Quest Diagnostics
- 2005 – Supervisor, Quest Diagnostics

Johnnie loves the patient contact and helping others through his work. **“I still draw patients because I like the interaction and making patients comfortable. It’s how you treat people. I give others respect and care for everybody like family. It makes others want to work for you, because they know you really care.”**

Career Path Story: **Johnnie Vigil**

Words of Wisdom

Looking back on his career path, Johnnie has these insights to share:

- Don't give up. Stick with it and be consistent.
- Find a manager to show you the ropes. Ask questions and broaden your knowledge as much as you can.
- Have the right attitude with patients and coworkers. People pick up on your attitude right away.
- Pay attention to detail and do things right the first time.

Johnnie's Personal Path

Johnnie started as an orderly in a plasma center but aspired to be a phlebotomist. His manager saw Johnnie's hard work and positive attitude and offered to train him in phlebotomy. “My manager showed me the ins and outs of the plasma industry. I learned all I could, asking questions and learning why things were done.” After a year, Johnnie's manager was so impressed that he created an assistant manager position for Johnnie. One year later, Johnnie was promoted to supervisor.

Eventually, Johnnie decided to leave the plasma industry and join LabCorp as a phlebotomist. His friend worked in a Quest office in the same building and told him Quest was hiring. Johnnie set up an interview with supervisor Dick Shultz and was hired as a float.

Dick took Johnnie under his wing. Drawing and processing blood is different from working with plasma, so Johnnie had a lot to learn. He worked hard, asked questions, and impressed Dick, who said he was “manager material.” Dick showed Johnnie everything supervisors did and encouraged him to apply for his position once he retired. Johnnie got the position, has been a supervisor ever since, and loves it. “I love making others knowledgeable. If my manager hadn't given me a chance, where would I be? I hire people right out of school and give them a chance to develop and be successful.” Johnnie loves the patient contact and helping others through his work.

It is very rewarding for Johnnie to see how far he's come. “I was raised with good work values; it's in my family roots. My daughter grew up in this business. I shared my go-getter attitude and gave her the same opportunities I had, and she has quickly moved up in her career. It's so rewarding to invest in others, share where I've come from, and let them see their potential and know that it is possible.”