

## **Sherry Pelton, Businesswoman and Advocate for Respite Care**

### **Her Legacy: Assisting families caring for children with disabilities**

As executive director of Respite Care, Sherry Pelton led the struggling nonprofit to financial stability even while balancing career, family and her own needs, serving as a role model to multi-tasking mothers here and elsewhere.

Respite Care was just starting when Sherry took over. She dedicated herself to realizing her vision of providing assistance to families caring for children with developmental disabilities such as autism, Down syndrome and other conditions. Caring for such children can be exhausting for parents and disruptive for both parents and siblings, yet parents want to be sure their special-needs children are being treated with love, respect and kindness. Respite Care offers that kind of care.

Sherry set the standard for young women working at the facility, most of them women, who seek to make a difference in the nonprofit community. When she took on the job, one of her first tasks was to get the organization on a sound financial footing, which she succeeded in doing well enough to secure the funds for a 10,000-square-foot facility and a substantial endowment.

She led the organization for nearly 30 years, bringing to it strength and energy, her compassion and her business skills to assure that it will thrive well into the future.

Written by Barbara Fleming, Author, Coloradoan Columnist and Living Her Legacy Wordsmith