

Medical Minute: Trinity nurse fulfills her dreams



By Meghan von Behren | Posted: Thu 2:20 PM, Mar 29, 2018 | Updated: Thu 10:56 PM, Mar 29, 2018

MINOT, N.D. - A diagnosis of cerebral palsy can limit a person's abilities and life goals.

But don't tell that to Carla Pease.

Pease has faced many challenges throughout her life. Doctors diagnosed her with Cerebral Palsy at a young age. She was turned down repeatedly from nursing schools and has had countless surgeries. But Pease fought through it all to achieve her dream.

A scary medical experience at a young age paved the way for Pease's career.

Pease says she was scared beyond belief while getting an MRI, but a nurse stepped in to comfort her.

"One of the nurses grabbed me up and hugged me. And I was like I want to be like this person. I want to make the bad things seem not so bad for my patients and the good things seem even better," said Pease.

Doctors diagnosed her with CP at the age of three and she's had more than 20 surgeries over the course of her life.

"I feel like I can relate to my patients. You know I know what it's like to be terrified to have a surgery. I know what it is like to be in a lot of pain," said Pease.

While Pease was attending Trinity's nursing school, Dr. Aaron Albers performed an operation to save Pease's foot.

Albers says Pease inspires people every day.

"To reassure their patients, 'hey, I've been through this, I know what it's like.' And she is able to give them a hope,

just hope with her story," said Albers.

For Pease, her CP remains an everyday battle but she refuses to let that get in her way.

"I know that I have CP every day, I feel it every day. But I also feel like it's mind over matter: And I don't mind, and my CP doesn't matter. So even if I struggle, I always appreciate that struggle because it took me took me to an amazing place," said Pease.

Defying the odds to live out her dream and make a difference in the lives of others.

Pease will tell you that if someone said 15 years ago she would be living her dreams, she wouldn't believe them. But now she wants the world to know and says, "Honk, Honk. I'm Here!