Susan Luz, BSN, MPH, RN
Colonel, US Army, Retired

Author of
Nightingale of Mosul:
A Nurse’s Journey of Service, Struggle and War

Tuesday, March 31, 2015
5:30 PM

Trustee Ballroom
One Silber Way, Ninth Floor

Complimentary Wine & Hors d’oeuvres
Cash Bar

RSVP by March 26th to 617-353-3697

Susan Luz graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a degree in Nursing. After a clinical rotation at Rhode Island’s Institute of Mental Health and public health experiences, Luz realized she did not want to work as a medical-surgical nurse and joined the Peace Corps, with her first assignment in Brazil. After leaving the Peace Corps, Luz earned her master’s degree in public health nursing from Boston University. She returned to Brazil with Project Hope and then took a job as a nurse-teacher at Central High School in Providence and ran its school-based clinic from 1978 to 2006. While working at Central, she also worked nights at the state Institute of Mental Health and then Gateway Healthcare’s Acute Residential Treatment Center in Johnston. Luz joined the Army Reserves in 1983. She was 56 years old when her unit was later deployed to Iraq in 2006, at the height of the U.S. surge and the bloodiest point of the war.

Colonel Luz was the highest-ranking woman in the 399th Combat Support Hospital, a Massachusetts based Army Reserve unit. As a public health nurse with certification as a psychiatric nurse, Luz’s mission in Iraq included helping soldiers with emotional trauma, and providing comfort to dying soldiers. Luz formed her own “Band of Sisters,” a group of nurses who were not only dedicated to treating wounded soldiers, but also maintaining morale among the troops, especially during the unit’s time in the middle of the desert in Al Asad. Luz was awarded the Bronze Star in 2007.

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