



## [The Noltings]

### **Phil and Michelle Nolting**

“I think you know what’s wrong,” said the physician from the Indiana University School of Medicine to parent Phil Nolting. “This child is retarded. You need to put her in an institution and go on.”

These words still ring as vividly today as they did forty years ago to Phil Nolting regarding his daughter Michelle, who has been served by Damar since 1977 and is the longest served client in Damar’s 40-year history. Michelle, who lives in the community has excelled at Damar, graduating from RISE Learning Center and holding a job at O’Charley’s since 1999.

Michelle has developed quite the unique skill of crafting and singing songs that feature various health conditions. One of her traditional creations is titled *Putting on Tourette’s*, which is sung to the tune of none other than *Puttin’ on the Ritz*.

Phil, a 30-year member of the Damar Board of Directors says he sees his role on the board as an advocate for all the children and families Damar serves. “I make decisions based on what I would want for my own child,” says Phil.