There are two aspects of professional dignity. The first is intrinsic, arising from the irreducible moral worth of personhood. The other aspect is contingent, related to an evaluation of the value of work that can be increased with recognition and decreased when either nurse’s humanity or the works’ contribution is impugned. Professional nurses’ dignity has not yet received a lucid description in the literature. This study explored the experiences of professional dignity of nurses in palliative care. Qualitative data obtained from 12 focus groups (69 nurses) were collected in Italy. All participants had worked in home-care and hospice care. Data analysis involved coded responses with inductive content analysis. Dignity of persons as persons emerged as the primary theme. More dimensions were associated with conditional dignity: palliative care organizations and acute healthcare facilities, professional intra and inter-relationships, relationships with patients and their families, and ethical dilemmas in palliative care. Nurse participants claimed that they were more respected in palliative care settings than in hospitals. This bestowal of dignity was based on mutual relationships with other professionals and was perceived more in home-care settings than in hospices. The relationships with patients and their families were based on a common respect which developed over time. Effective inter-professional relations are essential to safe quality care. These values depend on the perception that professional dignity is bestowed and maintained.