



For the next few months we will be running an ongoing series “**Living Separate Lives ‘Together’**.” We feel that this is an important subject matter for family and friends of our residents to be introduced to. Many of our residents are living apart from their spouse for the first time in years. This series goes through different subjects like the struggle of separating, what living apart is like for the first few months, different emotions that are felt, how there are changes in the relationship, and how to stay close while living apart.

Living Separate Lives “Together”

When Advanced care means living apart from your spouse
Marriages that last for a lifetime are rare and precious. Older couples have experienced joys, weathered many storms and have endured the tests of time. Understandably, the impact on the marriage relationship can be overwhelming when advanced care forces one spouse to move to a care facility, causing a separation.

Most caregivers strive to keep their loved one at home for as long as possible, yet that fateful day may come when long-term care is unavoidable. This most often happens when a spouse’s safety and medical needs have reached an unmanageable level or the caregivers own health and well-being have become jeopardized. Initially, the difficult decision to move a loved one may be taken out of the caregiver’s hands by either the physician or other family members. Oftentimes caregivers find themselves relieved to have been spared from making this unthinkable decision. Nonetheless, facing this day of change takes great courage, strength and many adjustments.

By Kristine Dwyer, Staff Writer for Caregiver.com

HOPE
for Dementia is here

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October 2019

Dementia Support Group

Waterford Place is hosting a dementia support group for loved ones of residents that have dementia. This group meets on a monthly basis to provide education, conversation, and support for those caring for someone who has dementia. If you are interested in attending the support group, or have questions, please call 616-667-6000.



We will meet the third Tuesday of every month in Conference Room A at 6:30 p.m. Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 15th. Our support group meetings will focus on offering education and support to those of you that have a loved one with dementia. We are very excited to have Gloria VanHaitsma, RN as the facilitator of our support group. Gloria holds a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Western Michigan University and has dedicated her career to caring for people with

mental health concerns and assisting the elderly. Gloria worked as a nurse at Pine Rest Christian Hospital for 17 years. After her time at Pine Rest Gloria was then employed for 14 ½ years as the Caregiver Support Coordinator at Evergreen Commons Day Center in Holland. Gloria truly has a passion for helping and educating caregivers and family members in their journey with loving and caring for someone with dementia.

Questions? Would you like a tour?

Please contact Kris Hartney,
Admissions Counselor.
khartney@sunsetmanor.org
616.667.6000


Waterford Place
Memory Care