

My thoughts for my children about me ... Bill Wolfson

My thoughts on this phase of my life ... 12/2022-02272023

Goal: To share with my children my thoughts as I begin this phase of my life- So they have a better understanding of me.

In thinking about what I want to share with you, I thought it might be of interest in a small background of where I've been.

Growing up during the army and work experience, I learned to listen to others for support in my growth. I didn't take the approach of knowing everything but more of learning from others. It serves me well in becoming a person who hopes to create better ways of doing things and reaching out for new ways to learn. I became much more comfortable with who I was and have had greater self-confidence.

As you might know, It was Mom who dragged me to make the change to living in Orchid Cove. I thought I wanted to stay in the house forever. What purpose would an old age home serve me? I wanted to stay with the younger families in the neighborhood. Packing and getting rid of things was terrible. All the things I collected became just junk to get rid of. It took lots of effort to downsize and get ready to move. Fortunately, Mom kept up the pressure and drive for us to get ready to move.

Our Move to Orchid Cove:

Culture & Staff:

The staff at Orchid Cove was very welcoming and had a caring attitude to make us feel welcome. The residents who we met seem very welcoming as well. The staff arranged for us to have dinner with others during the following few weeks and provided a bottle of wine for the dinner as well. The culture of the place seems welcoming and caring which got me thinking about why others were here and did they have a purpose in being here? I found out that the major reason people were here was that they wanted to be near a child in the area and most did not have a mission in mind. Over the next couple of weeks, I found most people to be interesting and bright. I began going down to where they put out coffee about 8:30AM and join other people in discussion. Most of which was not great, but I began to establish closer bonds with people.





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People as family:

I started to see that this apartment house was like a family to me. When I would meet somebody in the hall, or at the library I would think of them like I was meeting a cousin or relative. Its not that I liked everybody, but they were now family to me.

Discovering Music:

It turns out that at Orchid Cove, they have musical groups perform in the social hall once to 3 times a week after dinner for one hour in time. The groups vary in size from 2 to 6 people and play instruments and with some singing. The music puts me in an up-lifting mood and I really enjoy it. This is something I wouldn't do before we came here. I find it as an added benefit to my well being and happiness. I'm sorry I didn't do more of this with Mommy in the past. I do have some iPhone movies if you would like to experience one.

Dinners with others:

As you might know, one meal/day comes with being here at Orchid Cove. They have a few places to dine in the evening and one place for lunch if that's your meal. What seems to be the norm here, is people tend to form groups of up to 6 people to dine together. Mommie and I prefer not to join permanent groups but join more ad hoc groups for dinner. Where before at 5 Gannon Terrace, Mommie and I would sit for a few minutes and then go do our independent thing, here it's an hour of conversation about all different things, some interesting, some not, but the overall effect is a pleasant time with others. An added benefit is that you can bring a bottle of wine or hard liquor to the dinner table and enjoy wine with your meal. They provide the glasses and will even open the bottle for you. What could be bad about that?

Coffee Klotch:





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Every morning around 8:30AM to 9 AM people start conjugating around coffee pots that Orchid Cove people set up down stairs near the restaurants. Your father is one of the early members of the group. Some people stay for less than an hour others more. The conversation varies all over the place with limit amount on politics. Most people tend to be more liberal in outlook when the subject is approached. Again this is another way to get to know the other residents. I find myself enjoying conversation with people who I think of as my parents although I am catching up with the population here,

Bottom line:

What's my mission in this the last stage of my life? I am trying to determine what should I be doing with my time during this final stage of my life. How can I make a difference to our society to make it a better place than when I was born? I still don't have an answer to that question. Its some thing I ask others about in the various groups I join, but not that often.

Should it be political? The hatred of people around politics is something terrible. No longer do we disagree but hate the other person.

How can I be a better person to others including Mommie and you guys and my cousins.

Any comments or thoughts would be appreciated

I hope this letter shares a little more about me so you can build your memory of me in the future.

2/27/2023

While looking to get ready to begin my tax preparation for year2022, I came across this paper I was writing to all of you. I decided to give you a two month update.

I'm still very happy being here, Mom and I still have our little disputes every once in a while but this place is bringing us closer together as time moves on. I'm happy that mommy pushes me to take better care of myself and I enjoy being with mommy both when we are alone and when we are with





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others.

I have stated another project that interests me, How can I help create a place like Orchid Cove (with all its benefits) that is less expense than this place. www.projectacademy.org/senior-housing . I want others who don't have the saving to be able to afford this in their third phase of life.

I am still working om my existing project www.projectacademy.org These are my trying to give back to society and make thing better for all. I am finding the people of Orchid Cove very helpful in giving ideas to make my project successful. I hope I can make them successful by finding organizations to take what I have done and make them real.

To my three wonderful children, thanks for listening and al my love ... Your Dad

