Copperfield Hill Senior Community: Built for Someone Special...MY MOTHER

What has become an example of premiere senior housing, Copperfield Hill had its very start because of my mother. I was raised in a family plumbing business where I learned to appreciate the northwest area and realize the need for conscientious service to all customers. To a plumber, like a provider of senior care, service is "the name of the game." Those who are "hands on" develop a following of customers, assure good values and receive repeat referrals.

My children and grandchildren practice this simple philosophy in operating Copperfield Hill.

But back to my mother. My father passed away almost 30 years after starting the plumbing business in 1949. Her life went well. The more time passed, the more I called her to see how she was and the more I worried. The worry and concern almost became an obsession. Her living alone, I knew, was causing my very outgoing mother, to become lonely and her personal care was slipping. Care, like nutrition, fresh clothes and activities with family or old friends, became less important to her.

I knew I had to do something to reverse this downward trend in her life. She needed to get happy again.

Quite fortunately, I had been building apartments since 1965 and said to myself "Why not an apartment for Mom where she could eat when she chose, socialize, access transportation and be cared for as her needs dictated?" This would be good for her, I reasoned, and certainly provide me with a good

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feeling of taking care of my mother and relieving some of the worries and responsibilities I felt. This concern was taking a lot of my time and I had kids to raise and educate. Besides, my time with Mom was filled with questions as to her well-being, more worry and with limited time, there was too little left to enjoy her company.

At the time, 1985, I asked my mother what she would like in a new home. Her answer would give me the impetus for the design of Copperfield Hill. I often call the community and its "town center" atrium that evolved from my mom's suggestion "the Anti-Loneliness" design. It worked. My mom moved in at the age of 84 and enjoyed every second at Copperfield until she went to meet my Dad when she reached 98.

Mother most enjoyed her role as the chairman of the "Welcome Club." Over the years, she and her contemporaries brought flowers and friendship with a big hug to new residents, always inviting them to our free morning coffee and treats as an "ice breaker."

My mother enjoyed the social activities like sing-alongs, various card games, aerobic equipment, movies in our theatre and conversations.

Did I mention that my mom "liked to go"?

Our transportation program (her idea because she never learned to drive) is still the highlight of Copperfield life. We have wellness checks daily, staff that are working 24/7 but we have van trips without charge to the residents that go to casinos, shopping, medical appointments, church, entertainment and on and on. We know that independence keeps older folks looking forward and vital.

Copperfield Hill continues to evolve with

new ideas and programs. We want to share your love and remove your concern. It worked for me and my mom. Our family has since done more than a dozen senior communities.

Watch for our new "state of the art" Alzheimer's/memory care unit for The Manor coming in July/August 2010 with residents receiving exactly, precisely, personally the help and loving care they deserve.

I personally encourage your hard questions. After all, I left no stone unturned in providing the environment my mother needed. Why should you?

> With gratitude and respect -The Darrel Farr Family (4th Generation)

