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What's in a Home?

Anyone who has known me for any length of time knows that I can easily be swept into deep philosophical discussion of the history of long term care in our nation, and the different ways that many of us in the field have tried to move beyond the old institutional models into life-affirming care. Boring!!!

So it boils down to this...What if it was me? People who must come into a long term care setting to live the last days of their lives have always deserved better than what the old medical model "nursing home" provides. And the amenity wars that families must navigate when shopping for assisted living or "memory care" oftentimes obscure the fact that the care is not there. Our elders, and especially those with dementia, need and deserve a new kind of home.

So what if it was me? I would want what we all have in a normal home, with good friends, good food, things to do, the great outdoors, with independence, but also with caring people to help me when I need it. Real, not contrived. Doesn't seem like too much to ask.

Over the next weeks, we'll share the plans for each of our new households, and how each is designed and built to bring our residents, at each stage of dementia, back home.

Best Wishes,

Susan Farris, Executive Director