



A TALE OF TWO GENERATIONS

Father and daughter, Julien and Margaret Eysmans

Life has a way of surprising us. For instance, Margaret Eysmans never imagined that she would someday retire to the same community that her parents chose for themselves 15 years ago. Even so, she moved to Medford Leas about a year ago. What is not surprising is how wonderfully it is working out.

Julien Eysmans was born in New York City and lived all over the U.S. as an adult. He and his wife, Mary, eventually settled in Moorestown, New Jersey, where they raised their children and thoroughly embraced church life.

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In their retirement years, Julien and Mary spent a decade in Tennessee, and then returned to the Moorestown area when Mary's health started to decline. In 2000, they became two of the first residents of Medford Leas' new Lumberton campus and lived an active and social life there. In 2005, they moved to a smaller, one-bedroom apartment there just before Mary passed away. In 2008, Julien transitioned to the Medford campus for its assisted living services and the security of life at a CCRC.

Julien's daughter, Margaret, applauds her father for taking advantage of all that Medford Leas has to offer. "Dad wasn't reticent at all about moving to the Medford campus when he felt like it was time," she says. "In fact, he started the conversation."

When Julien thinks about life in the greater Moorestown community and now at Medford Leas, he says, "The greatest part of my life has been living here."

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Margaret Eysmans started pondering a move to be closer to her father a few years ago, when she was living in Arizona. She was certain that she would end up in Philadelphia, where she has many friends and interests. Then she remembered spending three months at Medford Leas near the end of her mother's life and really coming to know the community. "It was like a light bulb went off in my head," she says. "I moved to the Lumberton campus in April 2014 and it has been a wonderful experience."

"I have been busier here in the last 11 months than I was in the entire 11 years before this," Margaret says, laughing. With her background as a law librarian, she is hard at work cataloging Medford Leas' collections. She also spends time with friends in Philadelphia which allows her to enjoy life beyond the Medford Leas campus.

Margaret is happy to be close to her dad, of course. They have shared many dinners and Sunday church services in the past year. She says, "Medford Leas is a very positive environment. It is simple and feels like home. I am really happy here."

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*– Margaret Eysmans,
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