



Wisconsin Health Care Association

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Contact: Erin Ceello
608.257.0125

Past Resident's Family Thanks Golden LivingCenter- Three Oaks with All-Staff Cookout

Dave and Rich Fischer and Mary Hamann were so impressed with the care given to their mother, Eleanor Fischer at Golden Living Center-Three Oaks during the last few years of her life that they held a cookout to honor nursing home staff in June.

The family also made special arrangements to include nursing home staff in Eleanor's recent funeral services. Five employees and one past employee were asked to be pallbearers. Family also set aside a staff-only hour during the visitation so that all who knew Eleanor through caring for her at Golden Living Center-Three Oaks could gather privately to pay their respects.

"We all miss Ellie very much and were especially touched when her family asked if they could treat our staff to a cookout," said Bridget Haupt-Morrow, Three Oaks Sr. Executive Director. "Her family has gone above and beyond in recognizing staff's efforts. It means so much to us when residents' families show appreciation like this."

Haupt-Morrow says families will bring donuts or candy for all shifts, give gifts for resident projects, and write beautiful personal notes. Anna Hamilton, Admissions Coordinator said they recently had a tree planted in the front of the facility in memory of a resident who passed away.

"The family felt that we were angels for watching over their mom and now we will always have a living memorial of her," said Hamilton. "Staff feel it is a privilege to be able to care for our wonderful residents and when family members show appreciation like this, we know we have become a part of their families."

The all-staff cookout, with Eleanor's sons Dave and Rich at the grill, was held on June 12th. In addition to the staff cookout in June, the facility celebrated Long Term Caregiver's Month by holding special events during Certified Nursing Assistant Week and by having a masseuse come in to give the staff chair massages for relaxation.

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