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Suppose your aging father lives with you and you need to make a quick trip to the store. During the few minutes you’re away, your father falls and has to go to court and incur unnecessary expenses. “It’s important to have a will so loved ones don’t have to go to court and incur unnecessary expenses,” says Palmgren. Planned giving allows you to decide how you want to be remembered, while addressing critical tax and inheritance issues. Planned gifts also help us serve residents by initiating new programs and providing funds when repairs or updates are needed. You can complete a will for free online. Please contact Therese Cain at tcain@augustanacare.org or 612-843-6804 to schedule a time to meet with Becky or to learn about planned giving options at Augustana Care.

The mission of Augustana Care is to serve God by fostering fullness of life for older adults and other people in need through the provision of health care, housing and other services in a Christian tradition.

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- Automatic medication reminders and dispensers
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When Wishes Come True: a Touch of Grace

Since Grace Hospice was founded in 2014, Executive Director Sarah Van Winkle has received special requests from patients. One patient wished he could enjoy a steak dinner downtown with his wife. “We wanted to make that happen,” Van Winkle recalls.

Staff members brought the patient and his wife to a downtown restaurant, using a town car to drive them around. This year, Grace Hospice instituted a program called Touch of Grace. The program uses donations from generous family members to make more wishes come true.

Grace Hospice social workers plan an integral role in fulfilling patients’ requests. Therese Gilmore, Linnea Borer and Caroline Wilman (left to right) plan a visit with Wally McNeil, known as Wally the Beer Man. The program allowed one patient to host a pizza party for his family. Another patient was visited by sports celebrity Wally McNeil (also known as Wally the Beer Man), who knew the patient in previous years.

“Part of our mission is about celebrating the moments we have,” says Van Winkle. “Giving people the opportunity to enjoy those moments is the purpose of our Touch of Grace Program.” To learn more about the program and Grace Hospice, contact Sarah Van Winkle at sfvanwinkle@gracecaring.org or call 612-843-6804.

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