

April 2016

Hello,

Recently, Ken, the son of a former member of the Silver Club, shared this story about their Silver Club experience:

*When I first brought my father to Silver Club in January 2013, he was living with me and I was taking care of him, and frankly I viewed Silver Club more as respite care for me than as something he would enjoy. My dad had mid-stage Alzheimer's disease and required almost constant attention. I needed a break, and Silver Club provided that.*

*But, picking him up at the end of the day, I'd see how happy he was and how much he hated to leave. (I tried not to take this personally.) Later I moved my dad into an assisted living facility with its own activity program. But I kept him in Silver Club because it was obviously benefiting him so much.*

***Something special goes on there.** People with memory deficits live in a fractured, confusing, threatening world. But at Silver Club, the staff and volunteers warmly welcomed my dad each morning, and as they got to know him they learned his history and his personality. Through reminiscences, games, music, and art they gently brought out his creative side, and along with other guests provided the community that he was missing. Silver Club became his new family and his new circle of friends.*

*Research scientists are busy looking for an Alzheimer's cure. In the meantime, **the dedicated Silver Club staff and volunteers are making a difference now.** They are finding new ways to engage people with dementia wherever they may be cognitively and emotionally. To me, it's the real laboratory of dementia.*

***Thank you for making my dad's last two years joyful ones.***

This is why we created the Silver Club — to help people with memory loss engage in meaningful activities, and stay mentally and physically active while enjoying the companionship and support of like-minded friends.

**To maintain these programs, we need your support!** Our goal is to never turn away someone in need due to his/her financial circumstances. We use a sliding-fee scale so that each family pays what they can afford. The balance comes from grants, and contributions from people like you — people who care about our members.

Please consider a gift today to help older adults in our community living with memory loss. You can provide art supplies for our members with a gift of \$50, transportation for a field trip for \$75, or sponsor an individual for a day with a gift of \$100, or a week for \$450.

We will greatly appreciate whatever you can afford to give and use it wisely so that older adults in our community can experience the joy of a fulfilling life.

Sincerely,



Doug Dault  
Director, Silver Club Programs



Sara Holmes  
Chair, Silver Club Advisory Board

**P.S. Gifts made before June 30 will help us plan for the fiscal year ahead. Thank you for your generosity.**