



William Fisher

Category: Caring with Courage

Nomination submitted by care coordinator Betheny in NORTH West.

William's mother has high care needs both functionally and cognitively. Following a stay in hospital in September 2020, William was encouraged by the medical care team to apply for long-term care on behalf of his mother. Instead, William insisted on having her discharged home to his residence so he could care for her.

William's Care Coordinator shared that, in her experience, William has provided exceptional care above and beyond what most caregivers would endure to ensure his mother has the best quality of life despite her increasing care needs, and the challenges that come with securing additional supports in their rural community. He meets her care needs and honours her wishes with the utmost dignity and respect, ensuring she is included in every aspect of her care where other care aids and caregivers may have dismissed her given her cognitive impairments. Even once her care needs became too great for him to continue caregiving at home, William visits his mother every day while she waits in hospital for her long-term care bed to ensure she is well looked after, providing much of the care himself while he visits. His presence helps his mom to remain calm and content.

William's nominator Betheny shared that she has not seen many other caregivers go to such lengths to support a loved one with high needs in the community, providing care that respects the patient physically and psychologically. Not only has this caregiver provided care with great patience and dignity, but with minimal support.

William repeatedly puts the patients' needs ahead of his own to ensure the best quality of care for the patient.