

Area Agencies on Aging

In Action

January 2008

Ray moved into his niece Betty's home in 2003 due to multiple health problems. After a hip fracture in 2005, he found himself in a nursing home needing more care than Betty alone could provide. However, with the help of the Area Agency on Aging, PSA 2, and PASSPORT case manager Elaine Flaughter, RN, (shown with Ray in the photograph), Ray was able to return to his Springfield home and Betty no longer worries about his quality of care.



Eighty-nine-year-old Ray requires hands-on assistance with personal care, transfers, and walking with his walker. A PASSPORT home health aide arrives every morning to assist Ray with bathing, dressing, and grooming, giving Betty a short respite from her caregiving duties. Although Ray is very hard of hearing and has difficulty speaking, he and his aide find a way to talk and joke throughout his morning care until they do their "walker dance" to the dining room table. This is where Ray reads the daily newspaper front to back, and clips articles and photos of interest, particularly those about his beloved Reds, Bengals, and Buckeyes. Ray loves to read about and watch his favorite teams play, and he is eager for baseball season to begin.

Area Agency on Aging, PSA 2, PASSPORT case manager Elaine Flaughter, RN, also manages his PASSPORT care plan to provide items needed for Ray's care, such as a cushion for his wheelchair to prevent pressure areas, and a lift chair to make transfers easier and safer. "It saves my back," says Betty.

Ray pays a monthly Medicaid liability of \$269. His annual PASSPORT service plan cost is \$11,839, a savings of \$43,912 when compared to the annual cost of \$55,751 for skilled nursing facility care.