

Client Story #3: A Family Decision

Ms. H. is a 96-year-old woman who lives independently in a senior community. Her family called me to ask for some guidance on their mother's care. Ms. H. has moderate short term memory loss and wears a hearing aid, but is in generally good health.

The family related that her doctor had sent her to a dermatologist for a small spot on her leg that was not healing properly. The dermatologist had recommended removing the spot. The family was concerned that this treatment might not be appropriate for someone of her age and condition.

They called Everybody Needs A Nurse for a consultation. . .

Diane sat down with the family members and asked them some questions, getting an understanding of what was it that they wanted for their loved one.

They all agreed that they wanted her to be comfortable and happy. After the discussion the family decided not to go ahead with the surgery. They felt that the discomfort of a surgical procedure, no matter how small, at this point in her life would only lead to needless suffering for their loved one.

Afterwards, the family told Diane how valuable her presence and guidance had been. Her questions and input helped them to realize that they were all in agreement about what was best for Ms. H.