

The Whistling Husband

One day a man was driving quietly along a country road and suddenly realized that he was lost.

He stopped at a small farmhouse to ask for directions, and he saw an elderly woman sitting on the porch. An elderly man was working around the front yard, whistling nonstop. The whistling was loud and clear, but it seemed to be aimless and purposeless. There was no recognizable tune, just whistling.

When the traveler walked up to the man, he couldn't resist saying, "I see you're fond of whistling."

"Oh," said the farmer, "it's second nature to me now."

Then pointing to the woman on the porch, he explained that she was his wife, and that they had been happily married for 38 years when she became blind. Coming as it did so late in life, the blindness had been a very frightening experience for her, and she was still feeling a deep-seated insecurity.

The husband added, "I figured if I just keep whistling while I am outside the house, she'll have the security of knowing I'm still with her."



This story has real meaning for associates in Life Care and Life Care at Home.

They daily serve residents with a variety of challenges. Some are blind, some are deaf, some are handicapped in a variety of ways.

But they recognize the laughter of those important to them. They are comforted by smiles and the touch of a hand.

They have security in the knowledge that those who love them are still with them.

– Beecher Hunter