

Visit to the Antique Shop

A charming old gentleman used to stop by occasionally at an antique shop in New Hampshire to sell furniture.

One day in autumn, after he left, the antique dealer's wife said that she wished she had told him how much she enjoyed his visits. The husband agreed, and said, "Next time, let's tell him so."

The following summer, a young woman came in and introduced herself as the daughter of the old gentleman. Her father, she said, had died.



Then the wife of the antique dealer told her about the conversation she and her husband had after the old gentleman's last visit.

The young woman's eyes filled with tears. "Oh, how much good that would have done my father!" she cried. "He was a man who needed to be reassured that he was liked."

"Since that day," the shopkeeper said later, "whenever I think something particularly nice about people, I tell them. I might never get another chance."

The lesson is certainly apparent for those of us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home. We are in the people business, and those residents are nearing the end stages of their lives.

They need reassurance. They need encouragement. They need our love.

And you know what? That's what we're good at.

– Beecher Hunter