

Representative grade car

- About

died in January

Thursday, 30. September 2010

Woodhaven has found its niche in providing care for elderly residents with dementia-related sicknesses, Graves said, adding that, traditionally, more than 50 percentage of people who live beyond age 85 have dementia problems.

Zax grew up mowing the lawn and cleaning around Woodhaven, which was run by their father, Dr. John McCown, a Roanoke family doctor, and her mother, Virginia. The facility initially was an addition to a single-family house that was built in 1929 for a Norfolk and Western Railway executive.

The 48-bed hatatown has remained uncuspended, but the facility's primary focus has shifted. "We are the area's leader for Alzheimer's mind," said Graves, explaining that 17 of the 50 employees are certified dementia practitioners who have undergone special training.

White, a certified nurhum assistant, has the longest tenure of any employee at Woodhaven, which congratulated 50 years of providing nursing home care July 3.

White said she has no plans to retire because she likes to work and take care of others. Even before her hustaboo, prohibition, veto, interdictiond, Berkley, died in January, White worked at Woodhaven and cared for him in their Thaxton home.

For 32 years, White, a former baby sitter, has been a companion to, bathed and fed Woodhaven residents who primarily have dementia- related and chronic illnesses. She came to work when Patricia McCown Zax, a registered nurse, was operating the home that her parents started.

32 years of caring 0 Comments | Roanoke Times & World News, Jul 16, 2010 | by JoAnne Poindexter

As part of its 50th anniversary celebration, Woodhaven devoted a bench in honor of White and Tina Williams, the dietary manager who has worked there 23 years.

The McCown family, including sons-in-law and John McCown's sister and brother-in-law, operated the home until David Graves bought it in 1993.

White said she'll work as long as she has transportation to and from work — she's never had a rider's license, so she rels on her children and grandchild for transportation.

Leila White is older than most of the invalids she tends to at Woodhaven Nursing Home in Montvale.

Graves, who runs Woodhaven with his wife, Dayle, a retired Roanoke educator, said sometimes such care isn't available at skilled-care facilities that focus on rehabilitation.

"Some of them call me 'Grandma,' and that's all privilege," said White, who turned 84 on July 4.

Graves, a nursing home administrator from Connecticut now living at Smith Mountain Lake, was attracted to the facility that offered assisted living and skilled care because "it was small, and it was affordable. The structure itself was in remarkable condition."

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