

Encore on the Lake Membership Community: Drawing Families Together

Alyce Jacoby's journey to Encore on the Lake began in sorrow but quickly proved to be one of the best decisions of her life. The move reconnected her with family, brought her new friendships, and freed her from the cares of household maintenance. Importantly, the move also gave her loving family greater peace of mind.

Prior to joining Encore on the Lake, Alyce lived in a beautiful home in Columbus, Ohio. "It was a wonderful community, and I didn't think I would ever leave it," she said. However, Alyce's plans were interrupted when she lost her inseparable sweetheart, Bill, to congestive heart failure over Christmas in 2020.

Alyce's daughter, Susie, brought Alyce to her home in McMurray, Pa., to help her grieve Bill's passing. It was there that the idea of moving to Encore on the Lake, and being close to her children and grandchildren, took shape.

Susie's husband showed Alyce designs for the still-under-construction Encore on the Lake, a unique, service-enriched membership community operated by Presbyterian SeniorCare Network.

"I fell in love with it right at that moment," Alyce said.

"Once Mom saw the layout of the apartment—its spaciousness, bedrooms, den, a washer/dryer inside the residence—I think that she felt comfortable," Susie observed. "We thought that this would enhance her lifestyle and keep her close to us.

"It's so nice to know that Mom is in a beautiful new environment, that she has no house-related responsibilities, that she has a built-in friend network, and that we live just 5 minutes away," Susie stated. "That is peace of mind!"

That peace is enhanced through Encore on the Lake's on-site Personal Wellness & Care Coordinator who works with members to develop individual wellness plans. It is also strengthened through Encore on the Lake's commitment to provide up to 60 days of personal care, assisted living and assisted living dementia care, if

needed, at a Presbyterian SeniorCare Network setting at no cost.

Susie and her sister exchange daily, early morning texts with their mom that they call "the breakfast club," assuring them of their mom's safety, while allowing them a glimpse into each other's activities and joys.



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As for friendships, Alyce has made them quickly at Encore.

"The friendships I've developed here were instant and are really deep," Alyce explained. "We are all in the same boat. Most of us left homes that we had lived in for decades. Many of us have lost a spouse or a special person in our lives. We have learned to let go of things that we once cherished."

Susie has also enjoyed "going deeper" in her relationship with her mother. "Previously," Susie said, "all our time was spent in 'visits.' Now we have the freedom to spend more time together on a spontaneous basis."

"I can't believe I'm in the same town as one of my daughters, and I have my grandchildren and great-grandchildren in my life on a daily basis," Alyce exclaimed. "I'm so happy I want to pinch myself."

Encore on the Lake is an intimate member community with 80 residences situated on a peninsula cutting into Canonsburg Lake. It appeals to adults who want to be part of a lively, active community that is focused on successful aging.

To learn more about Presbyterian SeniorCare Network, please visit www.SrCare.org. To learn more about Encore on the Lake, please visit www.EncoreOnTheLake.org. ■

 **Encore on the Lake**[™]

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A Membership Community