



## *Sam and Evie's Story*

Sam and Evie have received home meal deliveries from Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread for a few years now. Sam is 96 years old and has several challenging medical issues. His charismatic and talkative wife Evie is 92 years old and is his caregiver.

When they first started receiving Meals on Wheels, Sam would be seated by the front door in his large recliner and looked forward to the daily interaction with the driver. Standing at the door to their living room with the walls covered in hundreds of family photos, it is easy to strike up a conversation about what matters most to Sam and Evie. Both eagerly share stories of family and friends.

Suzanne, the Monday driver, would be greeted first by their large, slobbering dog and skittish cat. A pet-lover herself, Suzanne brought treats for the pets in addition to meals for Sam and Evie, and her arrival was eagerly anticipated by all. Some days, Evie would ask Suzanne to open a jar for her that just wouldn't budge. Other days she asks Suzanne's opinion on the fate of a struggling houseplant. What a surprise to sometimes find Evie sitting on the couch chatting on Facebook on her laptop. The visits always offer Evie an opportunity to share the latest on her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and more. Sam shares a smile and words of gratitude for the meal to be enjoyed.

Over time, the situation has changed for Sam and Evie. Their beloved dog passed away. A small stuffed animal with remarkable resemblance, a gift from Suzanne, sits on a shelf by Sam's recliner. The recliner is usually empty as Sam seldom has the energy to get out of bed. Evie and the cat still eagerly await Suzanne's visit. Her knock on the door brings the promise of comforting food and a friendly visit to this quiet house.

Radford- Fairlawn Daily Bread's mission is to provide the facilities and volunteers for the preparation and serving of free noon-day meals to those individuals in need of nourishment.

**Donations like yours help Radford- Fairlawn Daily Bread and other United Way partner agencies do meaningful, life-changing work around the New River Valley. When you give to United Way, you help people like Sam and Evie find not only a meal, but also a positive and supportive community to help her regain her footing in life.**

For more information on Radford- Fairlawn Daily Bread visit <http://www.radfordfairlawndailybread.org>