



The Family Meeting Conversation Starters

"Things are going well now, but have you thought about what you will do when you can no longer..."

- Take care of the house/farm/business
- Shop / cook / clean for yourself
- Drive, get yourself to appointments, go food shopping
- Get up and down the stairs

"If you could no longer live here or by yourself, where or with whom would you want to live?"

"If you want or had to live with someone who would that be and when would you go?"

"If you had to go into a facility to be cared for, which one or where would you like to live?"

"If I could no longer care for you, what would you want to do?"

"If you can't make decisions for yourself, whom do you want to make them?"

"Do you have that in writing?"

"If or when you can't manage your money, whom do you trust to do that for you?"

"Do you have that in writing? Are they named on the bank account?"

And the most important questions to ask...

"How will you and I know when things need to make change?"

Strive for a Conversation not a Confrontation

Conflict can occur for three general reasons

1. You just don't agree on the problem - or if there is a problem at all.
 - No one agrees to a solution to a problem they don't know or believe they have
2. There are some underlying expectations that you weren't aware of or haven't agreed to
 - Avoiding the "should do" or "ought to do"
3. You and your loved one have conflicting goals
 - Your need to keep them safe will conflict with their need to remain independent and self sufficient

Strategies for Resolving Conflict

- Competitive - there is a winner and a loser
- Compliant - going along just because it is easier or to avoid a conflict
- Compromise - each gives a little and you meet in the middle
- Collaboration - a win-win everyone gets what they want

This information is for educational purposes only and does NOT provide any legal, medical or financial advice.

The goal is to provide general information so that you can seek out professional assistance from the appropriate subject matter expert

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