

The Conversation

RESPONSES FOR DISCUSSING SENIOR CARE

PARENT	YOU
I am managing just fine here with your help.	You're right, we have been managing. I have probably done too good of a job disguising just how much I'm doing and what it's taking out of me. The house has become too much for you to handle by yourself and too much for me to help you with. At Tuscan Gardens, there's a whole staff to help with whatever you need whenever you need it. There is a big difference between managing — just getting by — and <i>really living</i> .
I'm not alone. I have you.	Of course you do, and you always will, but you shouldn't have to depend solely on me for assistance and company. At Tuscan Gardens, you can get together with people you have things in common with whenever you like. Plus, I really miss spending time with you just being your child instead of your cook, housekeeper, driver, and nurse.
Couldn't we just have someone else come in to help me?	We could, but think about it — you'd still be by yourself most of the time. I hate seeing you cooped up at home when you could be out doing things and seeing people like you used to. Not only that, but the cost of having someone come in to help you, plus all the living expenses you have now, would be about the same or even more than the cost of living at Tuscan Gardens.
I feel good most days, and I usually remember to take my medications.	I know you do and I am grateful for that. Even one missed pill now and then — or one too many — can be dangerous. I want you to keep having good days for a long time. At Tuscan Gardens, someone will remind you which medications you need to take, at what times and help with other important details too.
Everyone is so old at those places. I don't need <i>that</i> much help.	It sounds like you're thinking of a nursing home — and that isn't at all what Tuscan Gardens is. The residents that live there need just a little help — like you. You'll have your own suite, delicious meals and interesting things to look forward to each day. You'll actually be more independent than you are now because you won't have to wait around for me to help you when I can.
What if I don't like it?	Then, you don't have to stay. It's a month-to-month rental and you can try it out for awhile with no strings attached. But I bet you'll meet neighbors who were just trying it out, too, and ended up wishing they moved in a lot sooner. <i>Let's schedule a tour and see what you think.</i>