

September 6, 2012
Aging Services of MN- Leading Change Innovation award
Programming and Life Enrichment
Ebenezer Ridges Care Center

By Maxine Dix

To Whom It May Concern,

For 20 plus years my husband and I traveled to Annandale, MN for a Northern Minnesota summer get-away from the big city. We rented a small cottage from a family friend; they were farmers and often had the cottage open in the summer months. It was a small cabin, 2 bedrooms, but it was right on Clear Water Lake and that is all that mattered to us. As we grew our family our 3 daughters were almost raised up on Clear Water Lake during the summer months.

This treasured little spot on Clear Water Lake holds a special place in my heart; many great memories were had there. From reeling in stringers of crappies, "just under the limit", to telling stories around the evening campfire, we shared many laughs and memories here.

After my stroke a few years ago and having to move into Ebenezer Ridges Care Center, I did not ever dream I would be able to make the trip back to Clear Lake. Tears come to my eyes thinking about the experience the staff at Ebenezer Ridges Care Center created for me and the other residents who attended. This trip meant so much to me, there aren't words to express the emotions and feelings that come over me knowing "I did it, I really did it".

As I was looking out onto the lake while we were on the pontoon fishing trip, a sense of peace and calmness came over my body, I was here, I was on Clear Water Lake. I caught a couple of small perch on our fishing trip, but I would like to go back again and fish my lucky fishing hole where I use to pull numerous crappy out of the lake. I use to fish with at least two poles you know, smiling.

The team work that the Ebenezer Ridges Care Center staff have and passion for making ideas happen is outstanding. You girls take ideas to a new place, thank you for making this cabin trip happen and getting me there- returning me to a place I only dreamed of.

Maxine Dix

Ebenezer Ridges Care Center Resident