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To whom it may concern

My name is Renee Giles, I am writing this letter on behalf of my father Daryll Giles. 12 years ago my dad was diagnosed with MS he was then aged 36. Since then he has deteriorated with this illness to the point where he now requires permit care. As it stands, in our area the only place that can offer him this is the Kilmore nursing home.

Although we are thankful for the care they offer my dad it saddens all of us close to him to see this "young" man of 48 years spending 24/7 surrounded by elderly people twice his senior.

He's quality of life is reduced enough, he suffers depression because this illness has taken every bit of dignity my dad ever had, that is depressing enough without spending his days with (although beautiful) elderly people he shares nothing in common with due to the large age gap.

This alone would be enough but my dad finds it very hard to talk and elderly people find him quite hard to understand, considering most can not hear and suffer from age affected illness such as dementia. I am saddened to think that my dad only talks to the nursing staff (who are busy enough) and my family when we visit.

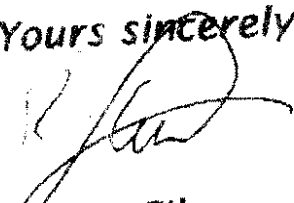
I believe that my dad needs quality of life, he was a hard working man and a great father, he and others of his age suffering from MS and other debilitating illnesses deserve to be able to spend their days with others in the same situation as themselves, that meaning, of their age.

I have to constantly remind my dad when he becomes frustrated with people coming in and out of his room and behaving as people with dementia do, that this is where they are meant to be, that this is a home for elderly people and that they are the ones who are meant to be there not him.

I believe that this kind of disease is hard enough to live with but I do believe it could be less depressing for young people like my dad to be spending their days with people they have a lot in common with, people they can relate to and most of all people who can relate to them.

My name is Renee Giles and I believe a 'nursing home' is not the place for my 48-year-old dad. He and the other 100's like him deserve a home for themselves.

Yours sincerely



Renee Giles
July 27, 2004