



# Virginia

## Home Support: Assisted Living

### *Multi-Service Centre - 2011*

**As written by daughter Barb\*:**

As I sit here in what was my mother's home for fifty years, I understand why she was so committed to staying in her own home. Every bit of it was familiar to her. Her house kept her within sight of her beloved backyard when she could no longer venture out. She could not have managed to maintain her independence without the care and support of the Tillsonburg & District Multi-Service Centre's *Home Support Services*.

My mother was lucky enough to be among the first participants in the MSC's Assisted Living in the Community (ALCom) program. This innovative pilot program supplied us with competent and caring PSWs and services so that she could remain living on her own. As the years went by, she grew to know and trust the caregivers who brought her stories from the outside and shared her many memories. Eventually, as her health failed, she required more care than ALCom could provide and she became a private pay client of MSC. Those same PSWs whom she knew so well stayed with her and continued to share what had become a much more difficult struggle to remain in her home.

My mother was scheduled to move in to long term care five days before her 98th birthday. Who better than her MSC caregivers to wish her a happy birthday and help her bid a fond farewell to a home that had grown to mean so much to them all? They came one and all with balloons, decorations, flowers and birthday cake.



Mother is pictured here with her many friends and well wishers from the MSC celebrating both her birthday and their victory in keeping her at home and independent for so long.

**Back:** Tanya, Maria  
**Middle:** Diana, Virginia, Michelle  
**Front:** Megan

*\*Virginia died on February 14, 2011, 11 weeks after leaving her home.*

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