

## What You Don't Know About Dementia: You Can Ride the Waterslide

When it comes to dementia, we often think about all this disease takes away from a person, including from those caring for a loved one. They rob everyone of so much more than just memory. At Lifesprk, however, we've learned there is one thing dementia can't touch - a person's spark.

And that, perhaps, is what is missing in healthcare today. The focus all too often is on medications, protocols, safety plans, and dealing with agitated and changing behaviors. But what we've seen is that when we talk to a person with dementia as a human being and listen for when their spark emerges in conversation, you'll find that reaching them and supporting them through this disease is about helping them live with enjoyment. The same goes for those who love and care for them – seeing their spark emerge brings tremendous joy.

Bob is just one of many examples at Lifesprk. At 90 years old, he is living with progressive dementia. Bob also loves amusement parks, especially waterslides. Over the years, his wife has cared for him on her own but as the disease progressed, she knew it was time to seek support. As she shared who Bob is as a person, Lifesprk Life Managers listened, knowing that discovering who he is and who they are as a couple was just as important as knowing what medications he took. Was it possible for Bob's wife to help him live the way he wants even though he has dementia? Could he age magnificently with a disease that is progressing rapidly? Perhaps Bob's story will shed light on a new way of looking at something with dementia. [Read on....](#)

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