

Quotes from Families

- *“The biggest benefit to Mom is that someone believes she is capable of creativity still and gives her new opportunities to use her mind and hands.”*
- *“Thanks too for including my dad in OMA. I think it is an amazing program; it is very important to my dad and to us and we are appreciative of the opportunity for him to be included. He is very proud of the beautiful artwork that we have hung on his walls. He can do so little now, that this is especially meaningful.”*
- *“I wanted to let you know that my dad passed away this morning. ... We were so grateful for his participation in OMA and his friendship with each of you.”*
- *“Thank you for including him in your wonderful program and for the kindness and respect that you showed to him.”*
- *“I am writing to express my gratitude to you for offering my mother the opportunity to participate in the OMA Program. I would also like to thank the volunteer who worked with my Mom earlier this year.”*
- *“Clearly, the OMA program is one of the highlights (if not THE highlight) of my mom’s week. It was wonderful to see how focused she was on her work, (later she told me that she didn’t even notice that other people were there while she was working), and to feel the special connection she has with you, as well as what she is building with her student, who is so lovely and gentle.”*
- *“By the way, this is an activity that my mom tends to remember, at least for a while, or when prompted about it...so that says a lot.”*
- *“Thanks so much again for OMA, and for your compassion and dedication, and that of your staff, qualities which are so crucial to helping my mom and the others to re-discover themselves.”*
- *“My mom had flirted with other art-related activities during her life (ceramics, candy-making, etc.), but this was the first time she was creating visual art that truly expressed her abilities and personality.”*

- *“My mom received a lot of praise from the people who attended the OMA art show and I was very proud of her. It was a banner day for my mom that will always stand out in my mind. I went back to that day when I was choosing the clothing that mom was going to be buried in. I unconsciously selected the outfit that she wore for that first art show.”*
- *“My mom had largely lost the ability to communicate with others, meaning that her ability to express herself was severely limited. Her experiences with three rounds of OMA provided a much-needed boost to her sense of well-being and ability to communicate.”*
- *“I was able to attend about half of all her OMA sessions and served as her art assistant. That experience created some of the most pleasant memories that I have of her within the nursing home.”*
- *I just wanted to thank you for creating a way for me to connect with my mom during the last years of her life. It changed my relationship with her and gave me plenty to digest concerning her art process. I learned a lot from watching her work; her choices always tended towards the unexpected.*