Willow Award

EXCELLENCE IN END-OF-LIFE CARE

February 20, 2024

To: The Willow Award / Smith Family Funeral Homes

RE: Willow Award Nomination

Dear Sirs,

My name is Judy Smith and I recently lost my husband (Gene) to a long illness of Parkinsons. He had been diagnosed seven years ago and was in hospice care the last three years.

When Gene became afflicted with Parkinson's symptoms that included his inability to walk, I realized that additional help was needed in the home. Our goal was to keep him home. So, a friend of my sisters recommended a caregiver that had taken care of her family. Curtis Felps came into our lives and turned out to be an angel sent by God. I'm not sure I can convey the comfort and care that Curtis provided. He has a full-time job but answered my call for help. He would come every week and did anything and everything I asked. He was always in a good mood and brought it with him every time.

He genuinely cared for Gene and me and became an important part of our team. He has a huge heart that included patience and love for my husband (and me). I can never thank him enough but the mission of this award speaks to his gift. He was my "Willow Tree". And I would like to nominate him in recognition of his exceptional care for Gene and his journey to his end-of-life.

Sincerely,
Judy Smith and the Family of Gene Powell Smith
2045-2023