

NEWS RELEASE



Touchmark on West Prospect

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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100 year old sense of humor is still funny – Clarence Miller turns 100

APPLETON, Wis. — The face of aging is changing...and it has a big smile. Touchmark on West Prospect is home to a very active, able gentleman by the name of Clarence Miller and his wife Myrtle. Clarence was born May 31st, 1910 and will be celebrating his 100 birthday party both May 21st and May 22nd in a two day event that Clarence planned himself.

Some might be surprised to hear of a 100 year old still driving (and safely we might add), walking without assistance, taking care of all of his personal affairs and care, getting together with life-time friends weekly and staying involved in what's going on in his community but for Clarence Miller it all seems so natural. What stands out the most about Clarence is his keen sense of humor and the way that he is able to interject his one-of-a-kind laugh into almost every conversation.

When asked recently what about turning 100 years of age was most appealing the answer was typical Clarence. Was it the bragging rights? No. Was it the pleasure in knowing all the things he'd experienced and the millions of changes he lived through? No. Clarence revealed that his cousin told him at his 99th birthday that if he made it to 100 she'd give him one-hundred dollars. Clarence says with a grin "I'm in it for the money!" Of course that characteristic laughter followed.

The invitations for Clarence's big two-day celebration were his own creation that he printed on his computer using clip art, inserting a personal photo and printing the return reply envelopes independently. The plan for the two days at his home, Touchmark on West Prospect, is as follows:

Friday, May 21, 2010

- **2:00pm** — Resident & Staff invitation – Cake & Punch in the lobby

2601 Touchmark Drive | Appleton, WI 54914 | 920-832-9100 | 920-832-9790 FAX
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- **2:30 p.m.** — followed by The Live Weyers two-person band performing in the lobby of the resort-style retirement community. Clarence dancing with his daughter and friends is likely.

Saturday, May 22, 2010

- **2:00pm** — Piano music of Clarence’s favorite melodies played by Jean Ormson
- **2:30 p.m.** — Approximately 50 family and closest friends, some of which Clarence has stayed in touch with for over 50 years, will attend a dinner, humorous roast of Clarence and video pictorial of his life. A birthday cake glowing with 100 candles and a blow-out wish will follow at nearly 3:30pm.

Being a decorated veteran of the navy that started out as a radio man 1st class in 1943, Clarence knew that people might be less likely to be able to attend his birthday parties he held them on his birth date which is May 31st, Memorial Day weekend. So he decided to start his celebration a week earlier slipping in the comment “when you’re turning 100 you can get away with more”.

In light of a world full of crisis and uncertainty, some things remain steady and reassuring like Clarence Miller and his laughter. When asked how he stays so physically fit he replied “chasing Myrtle around the apartment!” She’s the “younger woman” he’s running around with, has been for over 60 years and is still going strong.

Touchmark on West Prospect is a resort-style retirement campus for people 55 and over. Touchmark provides carefree living in single level full-size homes, apartment living as large as three bedroom and assisted living. This 40 acre active living campus boast many people that chronologically may be considered older but by lifestyle and attitude clearly appear as if they are 20 or more years younger than the number might imply. An extensive Life Enrichment program, engaging social, spiritual, community-minded, intergenerational, volunteering, physical activity has a great deal to do with our abilities and our outlook. Clarence and Myrtle are one of many that chose this active lifestyle to maintain their impressive abilities.

Touchmark is located at 2601 Touchmark Drive, Appleton, WI 54914 (across the street from Butte des Morts country club). Contact: Bobbie Thompson, Director of Business Development for Touchmark at (920) 450-7656 for more information.