

OPINION & LETTERS

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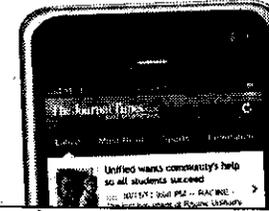
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LETTERS FROM READERS

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Angels abound at Union Grove VA

My father was very fortunate to have been admitted into the VA nursing home in Union Grove, but he won the power ball lottery with the care he received in their memory care ward.

My sister and I have been visiting him there, for the last couple of years, and every trip has provided us with multiple examples of the staff's kindness, patience, and skill.

Let's be very clear. Dealing with dementia patients is not an easy task. From my perspective it is one of the most difficult jobs in the health care field for many reasons. I don't mean to take away from the others who care for us when we are down, but these aides and nurses are truly in the trenches. I don't know how much they earn, but there is no question in my mind that they deserve more than they get, caring, as they do, for our very vulnerable loved ones.

Well, dad just died, so we won't be seeing them so much anymore, for a while, and hopefully, there will be some kind of cure for this condition we often hear about, but for the record, when I think of this experience, as I often do and will, my vision is filled with wings.

In my mind these women are the angels of our society. Beyond that, my words and thanks are inadequate. If you, who might read this, are looking for lessons in kindness, you need look no farther. If there was ever a course offered in kindness and patience, these angels would be my professors.

Jim Knutson
Middleton

2/10/2015