

Get Your Ducks in a Row!

Estate & Long-Term Care Planning News
from Carolina Family Estate Planning

July 2020

IN MEMORIAM

In late April, my grandfather passed away, just a couple weeks shy of his 96th birthday. Over the years, I've shared various stories of my grandfather with clients, and his Navy photo is displayed in our Veterans-themed conference room (he served on the submarines during WWII including the USS Perch and the USS Flounder). So, as my way of paying tribute to my grandfather, I've committed to capturing these stories in the coming months.

Today, I'll start with the topic of dying well.

According to the Stanford School of Medicine website, 80% of Americans would prefer to die in their own homes surrounded by their loved ones. However, 60% of people die in hospitals, 20% die in nursing homes, and only about 20% die in their homes. (Other news outlets report that this trend is shifting, particularly for deaths from natural causes, towards more in-home deaths aided in part, by a greater availability of in-home hospice services.)

My aunt was my grandfather's health care agent. She was a phenomenal caregiver and advocate for my grandfather over the past several years. She's the type to ask a lot of questions. She'll do her own research and ask the doctors questions about their proposed medical treatments. She's the type to leave no stone unturned in the quest to find a treatment that might aid recovery.

My grandfather lived with my aunt and uncle as his primary caregivers for about four years. In late April, after leaving the house for about 15 minutes to run an errand, my aunt came home to find my grandfather slouched in his chair, breathing but unresponsive. The paramedics rushed him to the hospital, but in today's COVID-19 world, my aunt was not allowed to stay with him once he was admitted.

And for this, I'm grateful. I know that might sound odd, but I actually think it made the decision process easier for my aunt and it ensured that my grandfather had a "good" passing. When the doctor called and reported my grandfather was in a coma, had suffered a serious brain bleed, and that he was unlikely to recover (or if he did, he would likely be unable to feed himself or get out of bed), it made the decision to stop treatment easier. It was more important to bring him home so he could be visited by loved ones, than to stay isolated in a hospital bed. If he hadn't been isolated in the hospital, I think my aunt may have been tempted to wait a couple more days to see if he improved or so the doctors could conduct more tests.

They say that hearing is the last sense to go and that often individuals in comas may still be able to hear what is going on around them. In his final days, my grandfather was discharged from the hospital and returned to the comfort of his own bed with my aunt's dog laying next to him. Family was able to visit and say their goodbyes, and when he took his final breath, my aunt was there with him and it was a peaceful passing.

For all of the havoc that COVID-19 has thrust upon us, from my perspective, this is a silver lining of the pandemic for which I am grateful--it helped encourage my grandfather's return to home so he could die with dignity in his home, surrounded by love and warmth.

Rest in peace. 



Carolina Family Estate Planning

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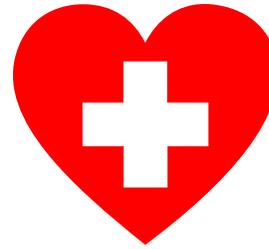
We won't have space to publish all of my grandfather's stories in the newsletter. If you'd like to subscribe to these stories as a series, please visit this link to subscribe: <https://inmemoriam.carolinafep.com>

Jackie Bedard is the founder and senior attorney of Carolina Family Estate Planning. When she's not washing her hands and disinfecting surfaces, she's loves reading biographies and playing board games to win against her husband Dan.





CAN YOU HELP US HELP OUR COMMUNITY?



We were saddened to read numerous news stories about doctors, nurses, and other health care providers scrambling to complete or update their estate planning in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While we're not health care providers, we want to do what we can to help support our community and thank our local health care providers and first responders who are putting their health and their family's well-being on the line to help keep members of our community safe and healthy.

To that end, we're on a mission to help 100 people in 100 days! We've created the tools to help our local heroes create a free basic estate online.

Just as administering emergency medical care to a patient "in the field" or at an accident site is intended to be a stop-gap measure until professional medical care can be received in a hospital, the same goes for these documents- they are intended as a quick, emergency tool for those without any current estate planning documents in place.

However, when the emergency passes, we strongly advise seeking legal counsel to further discuss your specific goals and circumstances in greater detail.

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In particular, these documents may be used to:

- Name agents as your Health Care Power of Attorney to make medical decisions on your behalf if you are incapacitated.
- Name agents as your General Power of Attorney to make legal and financial decisions on your behalf if you are incapacitated.
- Provide for the distribution of your estate to your next of kin (spouse, children, or other family members) if you pass away.

Please help us pay it forward! Let's give something back to our local heroes. Nominate your favorite local, Triangle-area Frontline Healthcare Worker or First Responder to be gifted with a Free Estate Plan.

The first 100 frontline healthcare workers and first responders nominated will be gifted with a Free Online Estate Plan!

Here's the link to nominate:
<http://100people.carolinafep.com/>



Sudoku

		5	1			9		7
							1	
6			3	4				
				7	8	2	4	
	9							3
4								
3	1					6		
				7				8
2								9

Thank you For introducing your
Friends and Family
to **Carolina Family Estate Planning!**

We're devoted to delivering first-class service. As a result, our valued clients, partners, and friends refer their friends, family, and associates to us. As our way of paying it forward, we make a charitable donation for each referral our office receives.

Beth Bearrows

James Feaks

Cynthia Jurgensen

Eugene Sassone

Sue Sweeney

John Tredway

Ron Heath, Mutual of Omaha
Mortgage

Calin Riley, Riley

Construction

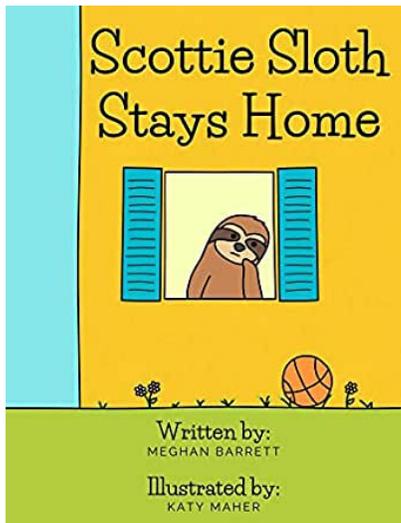
Jonathan Richardson,

Law Office of Jonathan

Richardson

Nala's Nook

Nalworth Dogglethorp, III, Esq. here (but you can call me 'Nala'). I know a lot of parents and grandparents are looking to keep the kids entertained while staying at home. Here's a great new book you may enjoy reading to them!



Our local friend, Meghan Prunty Barrett, wrote a fun children's book! Here's the description:

Young Scottie Sloth's life gets turned upside down when a really bad virus comes to town.

He isn't able to do his favorite activities anymore, so he has to find new ones.

This book was created to show how a worldwide virus affected young lives. It's difficult to explain this time to young children who just want to do the things they've always loved to do.

Even better? All proceeds from book sales during June-August 2020 will go directly to **Team No Kid Hungry**. Their belief is that no kid in America should go hungry.



We've purchased 10 copies to give away to the first 10 people to respond. To enter, send an email with your full name and mailing address to scottiesloth@carolinafep.com

Not one of the first 10 to respond? That's okay! You can order your own copy of *Scottie Sloth Stays Home* on Amazon: <https://vip.carolinafep.com/scottie>

2	8	4	5	1	3	7	9
5	6	9	4	3	7	1	2
3	7	1	8	2	6	5	4
4	5	8	2	6	3	7	9
7	9	2	5	1	4	8	6
1	3	6	9	7	8	2	4
6	1	7	3	4	9	5	8
8	4	5	1	2	6	9	3

When it comes to protecting everything you've worked a lifetime to build
WOULDN'T YOU RATHER GET IT RIGHT?

Carolina Family Estate Planning Invites You to Attend Our Free Seminar

11 Threats to You, Your Family, and Your Assets

AT THIS SEMINAR, HERE'S SOME OF WHAT YOU WILL DISCOVER:

- How to **avoid the common mistakes** Baby Boomers make when planning for the second half of life.
- How to avoid having your life savings or retirement plans **wiped out by the cost of care** as you get older.
- Uncover the **secret sources of paying for long-term care** costs that may lie hidden in your retirement plan.
- Important differences between Estate Planning and Long-Term Care Planning and how they coordinate.
- How to care for yourself and your spouse and how to maximize the assets you leave to your children...plus **how to protect their inheritance from divorce**, less-than-trustworthy spouses, creditors, and other wealth wasters.

Available ONLINE!

Register at: seminars.carolinafep.com

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What's New at Carolina Family Estate Planning?



- Happy June Birthday to paralegal Keshonda Ruffin.
- Happy July Birthday and Happy Work Anniversary to attorney Robert Seidel.

- Dan and Jackie rescued a second dog. Welcome to the family, Maggie (a.k.a. Maggie Moo, Magster, Moo Moo, Moo Cow...)! Maggie loves going on her morning walks with mom and spending time in her new yard watching the squirrels and bunnies.
- Congratulations to Virginia and her husband, Tim, for purchasing their new home.

