

BROADCAST-'Care was so personal' says broadcaster, former state ag leader about OSF OnCall Digital Hospital

ANCHOR LEAD-IN

Legendary farm broadcaster and Illinois ag leader Colleen Callahan has navigated plenty of political situations with ease ... but she found herself challenged recently by a health scare that the typically healthy 73-year-old never faced before – double pneumonia. What she encountered during treatment was an option she never knew was available.

VO or Radio Package

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After three days at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Callahan was offered the option of becoming an OSF OnCall Digital Hospital patient – she could get hospital-level care in her own home within 30 minutes of the hospital ... one of the qualifiers for the program.

Hesitant at first, Callahan finally said yes when she learned if she relapsed, she could avoid the emergency department and go right back into her hospital bed.

"And by the time I got home, all the necessary equipment that the doctors and the nurses needed was here. And from that moment forward, I received incredible personal care. It's not that it wasn't personal in the hospital, but it felt more personal because I was in my home." (:20)

ANCHOR TAG

Callahan's husband and daughter were with her but did none of the caregiving – that was left to nurses coming to her house twice a day and a doctor who visited virtually once a day. She also received three meals a day from the hospital and was discharged from the digital hospital three days later.