

Caring for someone with dementia

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ANCHOR LEDE: Since Bruce Willis revealed a dementia diagnosis, the actor's family and friends have rallied around him. It's a part of the massive task of caring for someone with the disease. Tim Ditman of OSF HealthCare has more.

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OSF provider Courtney McFarlin says caregivers should attend the loved one's doctor's appointments. They should also know it's a 24-7 job. So, make sure your emotional needs are met.

*SOUNDBITE: "The family could hire someone to come in a few hours a day or a few days a week to give them a break. Or if it's a family of multiple siblings, they can take turns."*

You should let a dementia patient live at home as long as possible. But there are many senior living options, from independent to memory care.

I'm Tim Ditman.

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ANCHOR TAG: You can also see if there's a caregiver support group near you.