

Interviewer: What is you didn't understand something, was there always someone to sort of explain the good information that you could follow up on? To give you a bit more information.

Ed: About Mary?

Interviewer: About Mary, or even just for yourself or generally?

Ed: Mmm, yes, well mainly, Mary was looked after by her GP. The GP would come to her, come here or to us, and would help Mary with what she might need apart from what she was getting. So GP was available at any time and we could always go back to the specialists at any time we want to. But ah, not that we had to do that often. But uh. We had a nurse, and the nurse would come in when needed.

Interviewer: So, what sort of things would the nurses do?

Ed: Well, if Mary had something wrong, she might have an infection of some type, they would give her the necessary. Ugh, antibiotics or something else she needs, for samples and so on, so blood samples and urine samples she would attend to that, the nurse would attend to that sort of thing, cause Mary couldn't... well for half the time she couldn't go out to the GP herself. They came to the house when needed. The two nurses I had in care for Mary would bring packages from the community, from the Veteran Affairs and some people, you know are critical of Veteran Affairs, but as far as I'm concerned, I got what I needed from Veteran Affairs when I needed it.

Interviewer: Did Mary go into care at all so you could have a few weeks off?

Ed: Mary went into care twice, yeah. And the first time she had a private room with a toilet and so on, the first time she fell over the toilet and they didn't find her...she fell over during the night. And I don't think she should have been left alone, but anyway, in her condition and then the second time she uh, fell over in the sort of sitting room outside the dining room at another place and she had to go to hospital, so that time she ended up in hospital when she went to Respite care. I think a person like that, you have to understand what their needs are.

Interviewer: So, were you then reluctant to have respite again? Is that why you only used it twice?

Ed: Yes, I've only used it twice.

Interviewer: Was that because of the fall?

Ed: Well, in my mind, it was, yes.

Interviewer: Alright, so then you didn't get any respite. You didn't use it after that?

Ed: No, no, no, not a long period I had before. No, I didn't have respite as such.