



Mark and Al Radmann

Son & Dad. Collectors. Client/Family Member.

When we asked Mark Radmann—as part of a video project five years ago—about his hopes and dreams for the future, living in the same apartment and working at the same job topped his list. Today, he’s doing both. He’s been working for the same employer for 15 years and has been in his home for 20 years.

And Mark’s doing something else: he’s helping his dad, Al. Every Monday, Mark heads over to his dad’s house to help with laundry and other household tasks. As they do for most, roles in the Radmann family have changed somewhat, but their ability to help each other when needed remains.

Mark, the eldest of three sons, needed help when, at 18-years-old, he started experiencing symptoms of mental illness. The symptoms—largely paranoid thoughts—became so severe that Mark thought his food was being poisoned. “Just terrible,” Mark says when describing how he felt at that time. “It was hard to accept and understand,” Al says. “No one else in our family had mental illness.”

Al credits his late wife and Mark’s mom, Mary, for “campaigning” to get Mark the help he needed, including finding Guild Incorporated. Guild staff connected Mark to resources and provided education to the family. “It became less stressful for Mark and for us,” Al says. “The transition and process became easier.”

One of the transitions included Mark’s move from his family’s home to Guild Hall, the residential treatment program started by Guild Incorporated’s founder, the Guild of Catholic Women. Mark recalls the comfort he experienced at Guild Hall, and probably not surprisingly for someone who’s made a career in the restaurant business, that includes the meals. “You could get dinner for \$2.50,” he says, “and that was a deal even back then.”

Mark calls the help he’s received from Guild since that time “the greatest sense of support.” While he sees someone from his Guild team just once a month now, he appreciates knowing he can call on them if needed. “I’m pretty content,” he says of his life today, noting his enjoyment of watching sports and collecting memorabilia, taking walks, and dining out. “Guild Incorporated has done an excellent job.” His dad and fellow collector, Al, echoes his sentiments, “Life’s an easier journey for everyone when Guild Incorporated is involved; it’s something Guild can be proud of.”