## Title: How to deal with grandparent that thinks they aren't at home or that they constantly have to be going "home"?

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My grandparent has vascular dementia and lives at home with one of her older children. I go over to help give company when I can, and I think the hardest part is making her feel at home. She constantly asks when we are leaving to go home, as she thinks she isn't in her house and wants to go back to what we assume is the house she grew up in with her parents in a different state.   
  
How can I answer her questions to make her feel at home? She mostly asks when we are leaving, if she needs money or how to pack for the trip. Every day when it's not freezing outside and in some that it is she packs her car with random things like she is going somewhere or brings things up and down the stairs trying to get ready. We of course have the keys hidden but leave the car doors unlocked because she can get angry when HER car isn't available to her. I've made a sign for her bedroom door that says her name and plan on making a memory book with a picture of her in her house with some family so she can maybe make the association on her own. But nothing really seems to make her feel better and she gets more and more restless and hard to deal with by the day.  
  
I usually try to answer that she is home and that her family lives with her, and try to point out things in the house that she knows are hers -paintings she has done, or take her to her room to give her a tour. Sometimes she realizes that it is her house but usually not and she often answers with "I didn't know that." This is how every conversation goes and I just wonder if anyone has any tips for how to answer or make her feel more comfortable without trying to force the information on her?

## Title: "I want to go home"

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Hi, I'm new to this sub. I just wanted to ask those of you who have parents or loved ones with dementia or Alzheimer's what you say to your loved one who is asking to go home. My grandmother-in-law is getting to late stages, and every day she asks to go home, or says she's going home soon. She's been living with all of us (MIL, wife, and me) for nearly 4 years, and we moved to Tennessee almost exactly a year ago. She insists that she has friends somewhere else and she's going to go visit them... Or something. I don't believe she has a troubling amount of anxiety during the day, not enough to say she wants to be safe, and that's why she's asking. We think it's most likely that she's just remembering house she lived in before the stroke in Florida, since it's the last place she had friends and such. What do we tell her when she keeps begging and begging to go to a place she hasn't owned in half a decade?

## Title: How To Deal With Her Not Recognizing Her House

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My grandmother is mid stage, and in the past month or two, something new that has come up, is a couple times a week she will get upset and insist she's not in her house, despite living there for 51 years.   
  
This will go on for hours, sometimes the whole day. She gets very depressed and upset over it.   
  
She remembers her address, she remembers the city, but she insists she is living in an apartment in "a town I don't know the name of" and goes on and on about how much she hates it there and wants to go home.   
  
  
Telling her it is her home, and trying to get her to recognize some of her belongings doesn't help, it just makes her very mad and she starts yelling that she's not crazy.   
  
Telling her she will be going home next week, and everything will be back to normal then doesn't help either. She remains depressed and upset and lamenting about wanting to go home right away.   
  
Trying to redirect the conversation to another topic doesn't help either, she goes right back to talking about wanting to go home.   
  
  
We're not sure \*what\* to say to her on the days she gets like this.   
  
Is this one of those things where there is nothing to do? We just have to deal with her being upset/depressed on these days?

## Title: Feeling guilty and responsible towards my grandma

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: I’m venting, this is long but I need advice and someone to tell.   
I’m 20 and my grandma has had dementia for the last couple years, she’s slowly deteriorating but this year has been the hardest for me. Mainly because of how aware I became of the issues and her situation.   
She lives in the midwest and I live and grew up on the east coast so I didn’t get to see her a lot when I was growing up. I didn’t love going to her house as a kid because I just always felt a homesick and there wasn’t a lot going on over there and I could never sleep. As I became a teenager it definitely became more manageable but I still didn’t see her a lot because I was in sports and school and whatever the excuses.   
She lives with my grandpa still who is just a old fart and used to order her around the house all the time and her son (my uncle) has lived there his whole life and he’s just a lost soul who drinks, he means well. The dynamic of that house is the last bit ideal for someone with dementia too. It’s just low vibes and my uncle doesn’t really get along with my grandpa and it’s just a mess. There’s not enough interaction or high energy to keep her wheels turning. I’m also 1/2 grandchildren and the only girl in my family since my grandma had all boys, and the other grandkid is a boy.   
  
Anyways I feel an immense guilt and responsibility to go and help her and take care of her. From never seeing her a kid and knowing she always wanted a daughter and i was the closets thing to a daughter and I never even got to see her. And I didn’t like calling her when I was kid and I wish I would’ve just called her. I feel like I missed out on years of love and stories from her and she missed them from me. I didn’t even give her a chance. or so it feels. My only problem is that I would have to pick up my whole life and move to Missouri, I’m in Arizona. And it just feels like I could be doing so much to help her and make these last years really amazing for her. and If I don’t go I’m going to live with the guilt of not being the best granddaughter I could’ve been, i don’t even feel like i was a good one at all. It took me 20 years to realize how much i truly love and care about her, I just wish I would’ve called her more growing up and seen her more. It was just because I didn’t want to or feel like it or just because it was awkward sometimes.   
  
I call her as much as I can now but it’s hard and draining. I always cry and spiral and she always mentions to me that I should come visit her. She deserves the world and I just wish I could give it to her.   
  
I hope this all made sense, I just got off the phone with her so i’m emotional and all over the place and conflicted. I just need some advice or a sweet message lol

## Title: I suspect my grandmother is developing dementia and need to know how to go about it

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: A few years ago my grandmother was in hospital (aged 88) and because of the medication she was under, she kept showing common tropes of that of a person with dementia (delusion, forgetting peoples names, etc.) and was placed in a ward with patients of the same illness.  
  
She checked out of hospital after about a month and went back to normal every day life. She broke her hip last year and had to be in hospital again for about three months. She behaved the same kind of way she did last time and it took her a few days to fully recognise her house when she finally returned home (for the most part she would only recognise a couple bits of furniture).  
  
She's 91 now and she's aware her memory isn't what it used to be. She'll spend a great deal of time when I visit talking about the exact same things (religion, what she's watching on TV, etc.). I noticed last time I was there she confused me for my brother and kept referring to us by the wrong name. She also told us that she's lived in her house for the last sixty-odd years and raised six children there, as if my brother and I never knew that.  
  
A few months ago she asked to take a picture of my granda and brighten it up in photoshop since she never liked how it came out, and I brought it back a few months ago. Last time I was down at her house with my brother she was convinced it was my brother that had altered the picture and even gave him money for it.  
  
I want to try and visit her as often as I can and I want to know what I can do to when I visit her (how to stay patient when she gets confused, how to keep her on track with the conversation, etc.). I know this may sound insensitive to some people on this sub and I apologise for that, but I don't know where else to go

## Title: How do we tell my grandma she’s moving to memory care?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Hi All, looking for advice.  
  
My grandma has short term memory loss that has progressed within the past 6 months.  
  
We had an at-home doctors/memory facility visit yesterday. She’s currently livid with my father for taking her car so she’s resentful of anything he does.  
  
Long story short, today I asked her what she remembered about yesterday and she said “nothing.”  
  
So, with that being said, she’s on schedule to move within the next few weeks but due to her forgetting when she gets angry whenever her independence is questioned, we’re afraid of how to approach breaking the news to her.  
  
Any advice would be great. Thanks in advance!

## Title: Am I doing everything wrong? Rant post... sorry

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: This is going to be a lot, and probably really long... I appreciate anyone who manages to get through some of it. I've only very rarely frequented this sub Reddit, as I've kind of just felt lost and didn't feel up to reading it all. I hope that my less-than-sugarcoated approach to writing about my experience with my mom does not offend anyone. I also wrote this over the course of several, sleep-deprived hours. We all have our coping mechanisms. I'm not great at finding humor in this still. There's a lot of dirty laundry from the past that prevents that, still.   
  
I'm 26 (27 in a couple months), living with my parents, and my mom has early on-set dementia. She has pretty much three settings:  
  
1) Desperately loyal housewife: She goes to extreme lengths to please my dad, which recently included forcing her bedroom door closed while I was trying to get in to get toilet paper so I could pee at 2 in the morning. When she's like this, she's extremely paranoid about doing something to upset my dad (even though he really doesn't get mad at her.) When she's like this, she'll often make sweeping statements about how "Oh we all love him, he's so wonderful, aren't we lucky?" Considering the past problems our family had before my mom got sick, it's pretty tough to hear.  
  
2) Bitter, vicious bitch: Self-explanatory. Yes, I know it's not "really" her, and no, I generally don't let it affect me. Our family has always had a pretty screwed up power dynamic, and my mom always had her passive-aggressive side and a hot temper. Trying to discern in my memories which times were really her and which weren't have been a thorn in my side.   
  
3) Confused child: Meek and confused, very much needs help to get a basic command done. We see a lot more of this these days.   
  
So yeah, that's my mom in a nutshell. She's been deteriorating for years, but my dad wasn't on board and was in denial right alongside her. My sister and I ended up feeling like we were in some twisted Twilight Zone where we were seeing things, maybe \*we\* were the ones going crazy, because no one else would admit to seeing what we did. Eventually my sister got a chance to move out, I didn't, and here I am.   
  
I've finally figured out what I want to major in and pursue in my life. I've been at the city college on and off for years, working on and off at crap jobs, going back for a semester, rinse, repeat. I've been massively depressed for more than half of my life and fell into the trap of "well I can handle it." Now I've aged out of my dad's insurance, I have no job, and am living off of about $800 left of financial aid until I find a job. I'm gonna be fine; my dad doesn't let me starve. He will pay for gas if he needs to. But I still feel like I'm just incredibly stupid and useless and doing it all horribly, stupidly wrong. It feels like life isn't worth living when up against the utter crap I can't seem to fix or get out of. My mom is dying, my family is screwed up, my dad is still in denial in some ways, and I just can't seem to find it in me to love anything about myself enough to think I have what it takes to have a good life. The person I always thought would be there to help me figure things out is gone. I have to work so hard to keep my emotional state hidden from my mom because all it does is make her feel upset or scared. I'm so tired.  
  
I'm trying really, really hard to prove I'm useful to my dad, because you guessed it, living at home and not having life figured out is a huge self-esteem downer. I do as many errands as my dad throws at me, and will do them at the expense of my time, my gas, and plans I previously had. I handle all of the grocery shopping, I take my mom to appointments if he can't, I am the primary caretaker for our four animals, two cats and two dogs. While I cannot afford to pay for any of them, I schedule their vet appointments, I take them in, I medicate them for fleas and anything else that pops up. I make sure they have food and water, I clean up the litterbox and any messes. I keep my dad apprised of anything going on with them. I make sure my mom eats something. I let him know when we're low on things like dish soap, toilet paper, and paper towels. I cook cold dishes that can last for a few days at a time, most often something like a pasta salad. I try and keep track of what my mom is eating and what she isn't (anyone else have dementia family members who have new cravings every few months?) I notify him of anything out of the norm with my mom. I have worked really, really hard to avoid getting upset with my mom or losing my temper. I'm much better than I used to be, but of course could always use improvement.  
  
None of it feels like it's ever enough. I'm still stuck at home. Despite the few moments where I feel like I'm doing enough to prove it's okay for me to be home still and figuring things out, there are always the long patches of me telling myself no, you're doing it wrong, you're useless. I live in a very expensive state, so moving out by myself is really not an option. Some days I struggle to get myself out of bed, let alone to look for a job. It induces such panic and anxiety in me to even think about going back to the dead-end jobs I used to work, but what else is there when you just have a high school diploma still? I just wish I could feel like what I'm doing is enough, but I don't.   
  
TLDR: My life is a mess. Triangle of take care of mom, get a job and work to save and live, and go to school are constantly at odds with each other and out of balance and I honestly just feel like I'll never be able to feel like I'm doing anything enough. My dad insists he never wanted my sister nor I to be responsible for my mom, and yet when we go over the list of everything that wouldn't get done if we stopped being involved... it goes on. We're afraid he'll wake up one day and lose his mind.  
  
Is there anyone out there who has anything remotely similar to this situation? Thanks for reading up until now. This has all been coming on for months, and it just kind of boiled over last night with me feeling really, really awful about not having a job and my own income. I feel like such a failure, and my mom is gone and not here to help me figure out life. She walks around like a ghost with greasy hair, unkempt clothes. I can't force her to shower. I can't force her to wash her hands. I don't think she's even on a single medication related to dementia, like anti-psychotics and mood stabilizers. I can't force my dad to get a caretaker. And when we finally get one, the relief I'll feel will quickly be replaced with the realization that I no longer have a purpose in this house, and that I'm just wasting space.  
  
Thanks.

## Title: "Call your mom. She's having a meltdown."

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My father and I can't come to an agreement on what to do with my mother.  
  
I love my mom very much, but her dementia has progressed, making her extremely difficult to deal with. Lately if you suggest anything at all, she wants to pack up everything and move in with her last surviving sibling who lives 3000 miles away.  
  
My father frequently texts and asks me to call my mom to try to calm her down. It doesn't work. All she does is end up screaming at me, telling me to shut up, that I'm a horrible daughter, etc. I know this is the disease talking, but it's getting increasingly difficult to deal with, especially in the middle of my workday.   
  
She now refuses to shower and threatens to leave almost daily. She's actually left a few times and walked over 2 miles.   
  
I think memory care is best, but my dad wants to keep her home. I see where he's coming from, but we're all losing our minds in the process.   
  
How do you remain respectful to your parents as an adult child and stay supportive while keeping your sanity? I'm exhausted and this has impacted my quality of life in multiple areas.

## Title: Fed up

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My grandmother is 89 years old and got diagnosed with alzheimers last year. She lives in her own seperate house on our (me and my parents') property. She is my dad's mother. She is "on the list" for the local nursing home meaning if she'd end up in hospital or we \*really\* can't take care of her anymore she can go there if there's a free room.  
  
Me and my mom are so sick of taking care of her, so beyond fed up with it. My mom has dealt with this incredibly stubborn woman for 30 years, and now that her mental state is declining rapidly its all way too much. My dad is retired but he spends a lot of time out with his friends and my brother and he generally has a "just let her be, it's not that bad" attitude towards my grandma, easy for him considering he's not the one dealing with her most of the time.  
Me and my mom both work part time and take care of grandma. I'm 29.  
We get groceries for her, cook her food, take care of her cat, clean her house when we're allowed, take care of the garden.   
But ofcourse in her eyes we don't do anything for her and don't care for her. She always asks for my dad cause he's the good guy. We also steal everything from her and especially me, she "knows what I'm doing" whatever that may be. She comes to our house at 3am, not knowing that its nighttime, and we have to get her back to her house. She loses her keys all the time so we had to take those.   
Every Saturday my mom goes to our vacation house with parents to relax and im really glad she can do that, but it also means I have to stay home so grandma isn't alone. The odd time I also get to go to the vacation house grandma has to come along cause wherever I go, she goes. Whenever she comes along she also insists on doing whatever I'm doing.  
  
I'm so fed up and so is my mom.  
We've told my dad that something needs to happen but all we get is a "well.. she doesn't want to go to the nursing home so, yeah" and that's it. Done.  
  
It's come to the point where we're both hoping she just won't wake up one day, or she'll get sick so we can take her to the hospital and she has to go to the nursing home.  
It seems so cruel. I don't want this for my grandma, but this isn't right either.

## Title: Moved mother to a nursing home, she's transitioned beautifully. Now my Aunt wants to bring her back home for a few hours a day. I think this is a horrible idea!

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My mom has had alzheimer's for the last 5 years and it's gotten progressively worse, to a point where she needs 24 hour care. She shows all the symptoms of Stage 5, but thankfully hasn't gotten much worse over the last year. At her best, she remembers who I and my kids are but perhaps just sames and us being familiar faces. At her worse, she thinks her husband (my dad) is still alive (he died 25 years ago) and she lives back at her parents house (40 years ago).  
  
Anyway, after moving her to a nursing home a few months ago and admittedly I delayed this for too long as I didn't want to admit she was that badly off. We had live-in help stay with here prior to this and probably has a rose-tinted view of her condition.  
  
Anyway, she's been at this nursing home for 4 months and she's transitioned beautifully. She looks happy, eats on time, sleeps and has even started back watching TV and reading!  
  
However, her sister (who doesn't live near us and has only a vague idea of her condition) wants to come visit her, but also wants to take her back home and to places she used to visit.  
  
I get she has some noble intention, but my mother is very easily confused, so much so that 2 months ago when I brought her last live in caretaker to visit her. She kept looking at her, and every 5 minutes would say "You look so familiar, do I know you?" Everytime we explained who she was to her, but after a while she kept getting increasingly agitated.   
  
She sometimes does this to my kids and my son, in his innocence, said "I think I should stop visiting grandma, I think she gets confused and upset trying to remember how she knows me and I don't want to cause her any more pain".  
  
I've explained this to her sister (my aunt), and even told her that her visit alone could be upsetting to her (however, I'm not going to stop her from seeing her).  
  
However, my aunt and I had a big blowout last night when I told her I don't want her taking her out of the nursing home. She accused me of being selfish, and not allowing my mother to have a 'smooth transition' etc. She even said I was being lazy and just preferred to leave her and forget about her.  
  
Reddit, I live 45 mins from my mom's home and I visit her ALMOST EVERY SINGLE DAY (I got a bad flu recently and didn't see her a few days). I'm even paying fully for the nursing home, my aunt isn't pitching in one red cent and has never offered.   
  
I just feel so f\*cking pissed at her for this. She's also the kind of person who will tell the rest of my family about my apparent 'cruelty' to my mom.   
  
Before this blowout I've her some many Alzheimers's care guides that reccomend trying to confuse them as little as possible. One even went as far as to say, once the transition to the new home has been made, it is critical that no more abrupt changes be presented as that can lead to mental disassociation, causing undue stress.  
  
  
So Reddit, should I give in to my aunt's wishes? Or should I stand firm.  
  
I'm honestly, afraid that she does this, my mom gets upset, stressed out and confused and has a heart attack (as she does have heart issues).   
  
Some advice please!

## Title: Dad threatened mom bc he doesn't recognize her

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My mom (63) is taking care of my father (78) who's Alzheimer's has been getting worst and worst quickly since he retired and the pandemic started. Lately he has not recognized her much and thinks she is "another Rose." He asks her to take him home most days even though he is home so he can go back to his wife Rose. Today my mom said he wouldn't go to bed and was mad that she wouldn't "take him home." He told her to make sure she closes her door because he might come and hit her. And that she doesn't know what she has done and that she has created so many problems.  
  
My mom doesn't know what to do in these situations. Does anyone have any advice I can give her?

## Title: What can be done for depressed dementia patients? (Severely diminished communication, "out of it")

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My grandmother has dementia (my dad's Mom - I live at home while attending college). She lives in a retirement home in our city. At this point, she's very much "out of it" - it's very difficult, if not impossible, to hold a conversation with her, as her communication is severely limited (a lesion was recently found on the speech center in her brain, although we don't know how old it is). She has memory issues as well and seems to be confused chronologically. No one really knows just how much she's aware of. A speech therapist came recently to work with her, and my grandmother struggled with very basic questions (things like "how many children do you have").   
  
Pretty much the only time she shows emotion nowadays is when she a) cries at random, or b) begs my dad not to "take her back to that place" when he's bringing her back to the retirement community after a doctors appointment. She obviously doesn't want to be there and we feel as if she's depressed. It makes me feel awful thinking about what her quality of life is - she essentially sits on her couch all day long until someone comes to take her to her meals or give her medication and other care. She was previously diagnosed with Lewy Body dementia and takes antipsychotics to control delusions. Before moving to the retirement community, her communication skills were still quite good, but she had issues with persecutory delusions and some smaller lapses of confusion.   
  
Is there anything that can be done for depressed patients like her? Even if it's some novel drug treatment that will help her feel better (even if the happiness - or at least sedatedness - is "fake").   
  
Everyone in my household is very busy. Though a big part of why we don't visit her too often is because of our hectic schedules, it's also because seeing her is so difficult. In addition to her very diminished communication skills (sometimes spending time with her feels like hanging around a brick wall), what further complicates the situation is past baggage. My grandmother was very narcissistic when she was younger, and while she didn't alienate her family completely, there was definitely bad blood between her and all of her children. Her daughters in law also have a lot of bad blood with her - it's hard not to, because she could be very nasty before the dementia set in. She was not an easy or pleasant woman to be around and refused many of the measures that were taken to try and help her before her decline (didn't want to take her pills, didn't want to exercise and would skip her classes, didn't want to be social or reach out to the friendly people in her facility, etc. - and it's a \*very\* nice facility). As such, her other two children - my aunt and uncle - have essentially abandoned the situation. They don't come and visit her ever, and have placed the burden of her care on my father, because he's always been her "favorite" son (he's the oldest).   
  
Does this situation resonate with anyone here? I want to visit her more often, but being around her aggravates my own depression greatly and puts me in a very morbid mood. Both of my parents are older, so thinking about how this could happen to them makes me feel sick to my stomach. Being around someone who's quality of life is so poor, particularly when we weren't very bonded to begin with, is also hard - I feel like I'm too weak to deal with this. I also get the feeling that everyone is just waiting for her to die, because she doesn't seem to enjoy life anymore.   
  
I've tried talking to my parents about possibly trying to find a therapist/counselor who works with dementia patients, even if it's only for the social interaction, but they aren't sure if it would help because of her memory and communication issues. I wish there was some antidepressant or other drug she could take to improve her mood, but I don't know if that would help either, especially since she's already taking such strong psychiatric medication.  
  
Advice?

## Title: I feel like a bad son because my mother calls me and really doesn't have any idea what's going on and it's very frustrating.

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My mom is in her third year of diagnosed dementia and she does a lot of things that annoy and agitate me. I try to be good but it's hard. She keeps calling me on the telephone and inviting me to dinner and I tell her that I don't live at home and I'm thousands of miles away. she'll say "well you can go home and just use the key and get in". I'm like "Mom, I don't live at the house anymore" and she's just falls stone silent, doesn't understand, and then says "well, where are you"? and I explain it to her again. she'll ask where do you sleep and I'll explain it to her again. I don't even want to pick up the phone anymore when she calls but if I don't she will literally call and call and call and call and each one she'll leave a message. I'll have eight or nine phone calls with messages to scroll through. they're all like 5 minutes long and she's just rambling. I wish my father would take the phone away to be honest or just let the plan expire on her but then she would probably just use his phone and do it. I just wish he would put her somewhere or get her help to keep her distracted and have her mind put to work. It seems he wants that + 1 so he doesn't feel lonely when he goes out to eat or events. He doesn't actually want to have a conversation he just wants to make statements about things. He doesn't listen to myself or my brother about getting her help or putting her somewhere he's just like whatever. I'm going on a trip with them in another couple of weeks and I'm kind of dreading it now because I think she's going to be overbearing and horribly annoying. I think one of the main reasons that I was invited was so my father can go off on his own and leave me with my mom. Well fool me once shame on you. I'll keep my fingers crossed that's not the case but I know my father all too well. Sorry this was a rant but the situation is driving me crazy.

## Title: Mom is moving grandma into memory care.

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: I found out today from my sister that my mom has decided to move my grandma into a memory care facility. For some background, my grandma has been suffering from Alzheimer’s for several years, but in the last couple of years it has really advanced. She was living alone after my grandpa died 6 years ago and was doing fine for a while, but in the last year and a half it became really clear that she couldn’t and shouldn’t live alone, her Alzheimer’s was advancing so fast and she was incredibly lonely. My mom moved her in with her and my dad almost exactly a year ago. My parents also raise my 14 year old nephew so their hands really are full. They have had guardianship of him since he was 3 weeks old. My mom also has caregivers come for about 5 hours a day 6 days a week. Her sisters don’t help. I try to help as much as I can. But my mom has gotten to the point she is miserable and can’t do it anymore. My grandmother is to the point where if you aren’t right in front of her, she doesn’t remember you exist. And even if you are in front of her, she’s not totally sure who you are besides her daughters (and that’s sure to change before long). I understand where my mom is coming from, I do. She can’t ever go visit her own young grand babies out of state if someone can’t stay with my grandma. She can’t leave the house really unless my dad or one of my grandmas caregivers are there. My grandma is constantly arguing about the same things: she never believes that she’s been fed, even if it was 5 minutes earlier. She will hardly bathe. She never remembers that she lives there or who she lives with. More recently, with COVID-19 she is mad frequently when my mom tells her she can’t go to church or go shopping (her favorite past time) and she of course can’t understand or remember what COVID-19 is, so it’s the same conversation 15x a day. I guess my mom has now decided she can’t continue living like this, I just worry about my grandma moving again. My mom knows that moving her into memory care will cause her to decline further quickly. I hate the thought of her being even more scared and confused than she already is, with no familiar faces to look for at any given time. Of course we will visit her as much as possible, and luckily the place they are trying to get her into soon is 2 miles down the road from me.   
  
I guess I’m just wanting to know what you alls experience has been with moving a loved one into memory care. I can certainly see the benefit of having 24/7 care from people experienced with this disease, as well as daily activities and other residents to spend time with.   
  
I’m not surprised my mom hasn’t told me yet and my sister had to tell me. I help my mom the most with my grandma and I’m sure she’s scared I’ll judge her for her decision. I don’t judge her, I see the sacrifices she’s made to be there for her mom while her sisters have failed to step up to the plate, and I admire her for it. My sister said my mom cried when she told her.  
  
Any words of wisdom in this situation? It’s nice to find this community on Reddit, I hadn’t found this sub until tonight.

## Title: Advice on how to speak to my Mom

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My 71 year old mother has been dealing with Alzheimer's for many years. I've been bathing her about a year now. Dad turns off gas and locks doors ( supplying details to give a frame of reference ).  
  
She often talks about going home to check on her parents (gone for 20 years) or kids (I'm her youngest at 34 years old) or whatever. She yells at my dad to take her home all the while saying their current home is actually her house her dad got for her (it isn't).  
  
We are managing, but what's best to say to her? When she pleads to me to pick her up and take her home? Most if the time, I can change the topic and she forgets eventually, but sometimes she gets fixated. Do I go pick her up and drive around? Do I gently remind her she is home? Do I just listen? What's best in your experiences?

## Title: Mother with early-onset Alzheimer's and I'm feeling completely lost.

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Throwaway because I don't want such a personal text on my main account.  
  
I'm 35M. My mother (59F) has finally been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimers a few weeks ago. She had been having symptoms for a few years, which we always attributed to the strong medications she takes for a rare vascular disease she has. Her dementia progressed very, very quickly. Just two years ago she was a little forgetful but you could have a normal conversation with her, she still drove herself to errands, etc. One year later she's completely taken by the dementia, having very aggressive episodes (she tries to hit my father constantly - she's never been aggressive before), paranoia, can't hold a memory for more than 5 minutes, forgets she's already home and gives tantrums wanting to "go home". You know, all the symptoms of Alzheimer in a moderate to late stage.  
  
I live about 200 miles away from her. She lives in a small countryside town with my father and my elderly grandmother (her mother). I had been sort of a distant son for the past decade because of relationship issues I had with them growing up. Nothing really traumatic, but my upbringing drove me away from them. I moved to a big city and visited them about 3 or 4 times a year, talking weekly-ish on the phone. Now this is happening and I'm getting closer to them again, especially my father, to give him support. He is taking this pretty badly and is getting desperate, not knowing how to deal with her condition. Nobody is prepared for this. I'm trying to visit them at least once a month, but COVID makes me very afraid to go. They're in a small town with very few cases, while I live in my country's largest city with tens of thousands of cases. My fear is unknowingly bringing the virus to them, since they all have high-risk conditions if they're infected.  
  
My father (63M) had to quit his job to become her 24/7 caregiver. Thankfully I have a good job in the city and I'm able to help them financially, but I'm not rich by any means. He's still a few years away from being eligible for retirement. I feel like she's getting quite close to having to be put in a long-term care facility, which is crazy expensive in my country. At the same time, she still has some good days and we'd feel awful to send her away.  
  
To add insult to injury, she has a lot of sisters but apart from one, they're all ganging up against my father and making the situation worse. We don't want their help, we just need them to not be part of the problem. This is the hardest situation we have ever dealt with in our lives and they keep making it worse out of pettiness, ignorance and family drama.  
  
Anyway, I guess I just wanted to vent. I know plenty of people here are or have been in similar situations. I'm open to advice or any kind of feedback.  
  
Thank you for reading.

## Title: My[24f] grandma[83f] keeps asking to go home when she's at the house she's lived in for 50 years

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My grandma is 83 and has had early dementia for the past two years and she keeps telling us she wants to go home to her "house in the woods." She tells us this multiple times a day, when she's at the house she's lived in for 50+ years. Nothing's changed at the house it still looks the same etc. She starts to get agitated and insists we take her home. This is really the only thing that she does besides asking the same thing over and over and it only happens early in the morning or late at night. I don't get frustrated at her, because I know she can't help it, but it does make me sad because she's like a second mom to me and has been all of my life.  
Does anyone know why she does this and how to help? It makes me sad because I wonder why she doesn't recognize the home she's lived in for so long. Thanks for any help.

## Title: Grieving Someone With Alzheimers

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Hi All,  
  
I want to start this by saying, I think you're all incredible. This community has been so lovely to me when I've reached out and it making all of this feel more manageable.  
  
My grandma has mid-late stage alzheimers. We finally got her assessed last week by a geriatric care team as recommended by her GP. They ruled out a UTI or any other infection and have placed her on an antipsychotic to help with her delusions (was seeing intruders in the house).   
  
My mom has kind of taken the lead with all of this, with her siblings kind of falling in line even though there have been a few missteps. She's been incredibly strong and the biggest complaint I've heard from her was "I wish I could fix it".  
  
Tonight my mom hit a wall and the floodgate was released.   
  
My heart broke when I heard her say she missed her mom. I miss who my grandma was too, she was a spitfire, witty, naughty and so cheeky, an amazing story teller and loved to giggle with me on the phone. But I also know the way I'd feel if this was my mom would be different.  
  
My mom is also devastated for my grandad. My grandma has some awful sundowners and is HORRIBLE to him and I can only imagine how hard it is for him. She was also pretty bad to my mom last week, convinced that she was my grandad's illegitimate daughter and told my mom that she would never love her.   
  
So reddit, I turn to you. What do I do? What do I say to my mom? Especially when a lot of the good in my grandma is gone and there are only small moments and flickers of it.   
  
I'm just wondering what you wish someone had said to you if you went gone through this grief process.  
  
My mom knows there's no fixing it and that all we can do is make sure my grandma is healthy and safe, and if some happy comes, that's great too.  
  
Thank you for reading my ramblings. Much love and good vibes to you and yours <3

## Title: Is it OK to visit her old house?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: I'm not even sure how to ask about this.   
  
Short-ish version:  
  
I want to know if it's OK to have my mom over to \*her own house\* for holidays.   
  
My only experience with this sort of thing is with my spouse's family situation. With their family, they do not let the grandma go to her old house any more. She gets upset and doesn't want to leave. I was told by my wife not to bring my mom back to her old home, as it would cause trouble or upset her like how her grandma got upset. Both my wife's grandma and my mom have to go back to their nursing homes each day, so they can't stay at their old homes. They both have Alzheimer's, but it hasn't progressed so far for them not to remember their old houses.   
  
Long version:   
  
My mother is in skilled nursing / memory care. I sometimes take her out to places for lunch, ice cream, or go shopping. I have to make sure to get her back to the nursing home every time, because it's important for her to always take her scheduled medicine (and have nurses available around the clock).   
  
She still owns her house, and I've been taking care of it for years.  
  
Since she hasn't been there in a long time, most of her possessions are gone, things have been fixed up, some rooms have been repainted, there are new appliances, and the yard looks different. I basically tried fixing it up, just in case we had to sell it to pay for my mom's care.   
  
Well, Medicaid took care of things, and they said that we can keep the house.   
  
So then we had this nice house, all fixed up. We have been wanting to do more things there. We did Halloween there, and we want to do Easter over there. My wife and I have been looking into selling our house for a while (since before my mom went into memory care), so it actually works out well for us to stay at my mom's house. I talked to my mom about this already,  
and she thought it would be a good idea for me to stay there to make sure it was taken care of.   
  
I was thinking about getting my mom for Easter and having her join us, but I don't know if that is a good idea. I don't want to make her upset. I would also feel real guilty about doing stuff with family but not have my mom there at her own house.   
  
But I'm afraid that she might see her old house and not want to leave. Or maybe she will see her old house, realize how much of it has changed and get really upset. It's also possible that she won't remember the house at all.   
  
Has anyone else been in a situation like this?

## Title: First time posting, need advice please:(

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: I live with my grandma, 82, and my mom. My grandma has pretty bad dementia but its just recently been getting worse and worse and we sometimes don't know what to do about it. We are struggling hard at not snapping at her when she sees stuff or tries to do things. Its hard but we are trying.   
  
One concern is when she tries to do things she physically can't. How do I get her to stop without getting her upset? She thinks she's young and can do it all.   
  
The biggest problem we are having right now is she thinks she isn't home some nights when its the worst. She will scream at us and cry and persist that she isn't home and she needs to be taken home right now. She will refuse to take off her shoes and won't listen to us trying to calmly tell her she is home. I've gotten her to calm down a couple times by walking with her to her bedroom, showing her all my deceased grandpas things and making her understand she is home but there has to be a better way. She sat and cried for 15 minutes straight tonight bc she didn't understand why we wouldn't just take her home. Im younger, 25, and I think she's beginning to not recognize me, so she thinks I'm a stranger and it fuels her thinking she isn't home. Its breaking my heart. I think her head is about 20 years back rn, which would make sense as to why she can't recognize me and why she thinks she isn't home, because she didn't live here then.   
  
Any advice? I'm becoming lost as to how to help her.

## Title: VENT: Frustrated, want to leave home, having mixed feelings

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Forgive me for this is going to be a long story.  
  
Hi! So for context, I have a grandmother who’s probably 100+ years old (father’s side) with insanely terrible dementia. My parents are the only caretakers despite my dad having older siblings (he’s the youngest). She’s been staying with us for several years now as she was in a different country before and it’s just getting worse. I feel incredibly sad and sorry for my parents who have sacrificed their time and insanity to take care of someone who’s extremely loud and abusive (verbally and physically) to everyone. She screams calling for her older son who lives literally next door. They refuse to take her in because of her behavior. They’ve completely ignored their responsibilities of taking care of THEIR mother and thus my parents have no other choice but to keep her with us. I wake up early in the morning because of her screams. Oftentimes, she does not sleep and will talk and scream for about 3 nights in a row. I know my parents are fully exhausted to the core which is why I keep telling them to ask my dad’s brother to take her even just for a few months but they don’t even try asking. It frustrates me that I want to be able to help them and lighten their responsibilities but it;s like they refuse to be helped. My mother does everything for her; cook, wash her, do her laundry, etc. She always verbally (even physically) abuses my mother, sometimes my father, and I just can;t take it anymore. It also affects me and my sisters because our house isn’t big so we can hear her all the time. My sisters are studying and I work at home. My family is also traditional so they will never have her live in facilities.  
  
I’m frustrated and want to cry looking at my tired parents because I know they want this to be over. I’m about to cry as I type this because I just have a lot of emotions. Today was too much for and I’m at my limits. I want to run away from this house and live far away where I can’t hear her screaming for her other son. I feel angry, tired, and guilty of all this and I don’t even know what to do or think anymore. I love my parents but I don’t want them suffering from this.   
  
If you’ve reached the end thank you very much.  
  
TLDR; I’m going crazy trying to help my parents because of my grandmother with the worst case of dementia possible  
  
Edit: typo

## Title: My mom getting angrier every day...

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My mom has been on the decline with Alzheimer's for the past 10 years or so. Within the past year her symptoms have gotten much worse (she's 71 now). Until the past couple of weeks her moods ranged from confused, but chipper to confused and depressed. But increasingly she just wants to go "home." She packs and unpacks constantly. And the past few days her mood has become staunchly defiant and angry --- she believes her delusions are real (she talks to inanimate objects all day) and that all of the real people around her are trying to fool her. She's told me that I and my Dad deserve to die. I have had to physically restrain her from breaking windows with whatever heavy object she gets her hands on. Even lately though she's calmed down around dinner time to eat and take her meds, but not tonight. She went to bet at 6:30 without food and refused to eat or take her pills.  
  
She is clearly at the point where everyone (including her) would be happier if she could be in a quality care facility. (We seriously try to accommodate her in every way we can). But we simply don't have the funds to do so.   
  
In fact, we rely on her SS income just to help pay the bills.  
  
Does anyone know good ways to deal with a loved one with dementia who becomes increasingly hostile while still being able to provide care at home? We really just try to be nice to her, take her for drives or give her hugs (when she'll accept them).

## Title: How do I console my mother who's taking care of my dad with early-onset alzheimers?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Title really says it all... My dad (69) is now in a state where he's unable to function on his own, forgets who people are, does weird stuff, and all the usual alzheimer-y stuff. My mum (66) is the one taking care of him, essentially babysitting him 24/7, and she's mentally and emotionally exhausted.  
  
Every time I call her, I can tell that she's been crying recently. It breaks my heart and I have no idea what to say or do to somehow make it better for her.  
  
So if anyone has any experience with this, I'd really appreciate some advice... :(

## Title: Advice on overcoming mom's objections to going to various weekly senior activities

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My recently widowed 83 year old mom has vascular dementia, though she is still pretty functional. I've moved back in with her at our family home and we have an in-home care provider twice per week. We want to keep her engaged as much as possible, so we take her to attend various activities about 5 days per week. Except for church, she grumbles about why she has to do this and why we want her to, saying that she just wants to stay at home by herself, excepting for my presence. Most of the time she'll participate once she's there but has been becoming a bit more resistant to going lately. What's a good strategy to overcome her objections and/or convince her that getting out of the house isn't a bad thing?

## Title: 56yr old step-father has alzheimers and I want to know how to support my mother

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My Mom married my wonderful step-father 6-7 years ago. He is 56 years old, and it is believed he is in Stage 4 of his Alzheimers.  
  
I'm thirty years old, and I'm not too sure how to help out. My step-dad is still highly independent and can still act like himself around other people. I can often have a conversation with him and if I didn't already know it, I wouldn't be able to guess he has alzheimers. He struggles with things such as remembering how to log onto the computer, he can't tell time on an analog clock, but he can still go out on his own to shop and visit people.   
  
I'm seeking out for my mother. She is struggling, because for 3/4 of their marriage it has been a challenge for her and things have slowly been going downhill after the first couple of years of their relationship. She says he isn't the man she fell in love with, though she can see glimpses of him every now and then (which is understandable).  
  
He is verbally abusive to her often (never in front of any one else), and is angry all of the time. I know she is suffering, and that it is hard for her because everything is all about the person with alzheimers, and not the spouse. Her self esteem is suffering and she feels trapped. She says everything sets him off (yelling and berates her), and he becomes focused on things and often freaks out at her if she says or does the wrong thing.  
  
I don't know what to do to help her. I love my step-father so so dearly, but it is so hard to watch my mother in this. A big part of me wants to tell her to leave before it's too late and he loses his independence, because she is so young and has so much ahead of her still and the other part feels so guilty to even think of wanting her to do that. Every outcome for both of them breaks my heart.  
  
Is she doomed with a life where she has to walk over egg shells and "be agreeable" to prevent his freak outs? This is the advice she's been given multiple times. She says he has never been physically violent, but that his anger is very unpredictable/severe and the littlest things set him off. She has also been told to "always carry a cell phone, even at home" just in case things get bad.   
  
She isn't interested in going to a support group because she doesn't want to sit around and talk about all of the crappy things happening.  
  
Can anyone relate to this? I feel helpless.

## Title: My grandmother is starting to forget things.

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: In the past year, my 94-year-old grandmother has slowly started to forget things. We recently brought her to live with us and she still thinks she's at her home in Mexico. She truly believes that she's in her home even though she's actually in the U.S living with my family. Luckily she still remembers my family but has forgotten a lot of other people. My question is what do I do to help her? Are these the early stages or are we way past that? Should I let her think she's in her home so she won't want to leave?

## Title: Mother overseas with moderate vascular dementia - how do I prepare myself?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: The sidebar says "Don't suffer in silence." And aside from close family members, I have been.  
  
My mother was diagnosed around 3 years ago with mild vascular dementia. Now it's moderate. My dad and brother have been taking care of her, but my brother has a family and my dad is exhausted and can't keep up with the shopping, yard work, etc AND keep an eye on her.  
  
Sometimes she doesn't know where she is (at home) and doesn't know him. She can't see very well (although her eyes are apparently fine). She has extremely poor short term memory. She will ask me several times in the course of a conversation the same questions, and say the same things. She seems to remember old memories when I bring them up, but doesn't have much to add to the conversation other than to seem happy/surprised/etc. My phone calls with her are breaking my heart. I want to be there for her as she was for me, and I'm always strong for her on the phone, but it's hard to hold back the tears. She's getting worse and worse.  
  
The biggest hurdle for me is that I last saw her about 20 months ago since I live in the US and she's in the UK. Affording plane tickets and getting time off is difficult. Last time it was a struggle to get childcare for my kids (I only brought the youngest). She misses me. The most I've been able to do is call regularly. She can't use the computer, can't read/write, etc. Even if I did visit, my help is temporary and I can't be there for emergencies. She has an emergency button on a necklace that's tied to a service that I help set up for her when I was last there, but she wouldn't know to push it now.  
  
To give my dad a break, after him resisting for a while, he had her admitted into a care home for a week. I just got off the phone with her today and she's not happy there and misses him terribly, and I felt so awful that I couldn't do anything for her. Her voice was so sad, and she's never really been one to show any sadness to me - she's protected me from that until now. I don't feel I can tell my dad what she said since I don't think it'd do any good. He needs a break anyway, and it'd just make him feel bad. My brother is on vacation, which he also needs.  
  
We've set up Power of Attorney (Financial and Health).  
  
1. What can I gift to her overseas? I didn't do anything for her last birthday as I couldn't think of a single thing besides beauty parlor vouchers and sending flowers. She's beyond jewelry, books, movies, and many other things that involve sight, thinking, etc. I don't know her clothing tastes well enough. She may not remember a gift that I got her 30 minutes afterwards, but it makes me feel better.  
1. My young kids used to speak to her over the phone, but she struggles to hold a conversation even with me now, and the kids generally aren't great on the phone. How do I ensure they have lasting positive memories of her? I blame myself for the distance, but there's not a lot I can do. She has a grandchild, my nephew, that she sees regularly, which I'm glad for.  
1. I know Dementia is a terminal disease. I don't know what her life expectancy is, and I don't know if it's possible to tell? Not sure I'd want to know. She's recently started not eating as much and that worries me.  
1. How should I use this time now to prepare for the future? How do I prepare emotionally? What happens when she no longer knows my name, or me? She can't remember my kids names or ages already. Those that have been through this, what did you wish you had done that you can no longer do? She was the one that knew my birth weight and time. I can never get to ask her that now.  
1. Have any of you gone gotten professional help for yourself, someone to talk to? I have thought about calling my insurance's nurse line, but the hassle and stress of going through that may be counter-intuitive.  
  
I want my mum back :(

## Title: Any advice on how to communicate a move?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Any advice on communicating a move?  
  
We are moving my Grandma from assisted living into an adult family home on Friday. I’m trying to figure out the best way to tell her Friday that she is transitioning to her new home. She is very attached to her current place of residence, but can no long afford it and needs higher level of care. She is not going to want me to touch any of her things, so I’m not sure how logistically this is going to work.   
  
I tried telling her yesterday about the move, saying that I’m excited we found her a beautiful home to live in, with a couple other ladies so she will never be lonely. I gave her a lot of positive points, but she got very upset and told me I’m throwing her out with the trash and that she refuses to move. She of course remembers nothing today... I’m just quite concerned as to how to make this as best a transition for her as possible?

## Title: I think my mom is showing early signs. She's so young. How do I handle this?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: I think my mom might be exhibiting early signs of Alzheimer's. She's 57. We have been noticing some mood changes in the last 5-10 years - mostly more aggressive behavior or being oblivious to things around her. She's become addicted to online games (angry birds and the like). She also doesn't sleep, but ends up falling asleep at work instead. And just today, while talking to my sister, she forgot her Granddad's name.   
  
I only talk to her about once a month, but my sister talks to her daily (usually about my niece). My sister and I both live thousands of miles away from Mom & Dad, so it's not an easy thing to go check up on them in person. I usually make the trip once or twice a year.The burden of taking care of my parents will inevitably fall to me, as I am more financially stable and have no children.  
  
My question is: How do I get her to recognize problems and see a Dr?We've tried addressing her declining mental state the past few years, to no avail. Mom is defensive and Dad is overwhelmed and in denial. But something needs to be done. What were your first steps with an affected relative?

## Title: Advice and support please

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: I’m 20 and my mum was diagnosed with early onset alzheimer’s probably just over a year ago now. It’s been noticeable for a few years prior though. She’s 56 at the moment.   
I’m really really struggling with coming to terms with it and having the hardest time being around her without feeling angry, upset or guilty. I have two older sisters who help deal with it but i feel terrible because i pretty much just can’t be around her because i’m trying to take care of myself as well.   
I had a meal with her and I tonight and it was so difficult; the same questions asked over and over.   
I know all the wrong things to say “don’t you remember..” etc and try my best and am fairly good with not saying them.  
I pretty much don’t know how to appreciate my time with her anymore and i just avoid being around her and feel extremely guilty about it.  
Advice and support for those dealing with similar situations would be greatly appreciated <3

## Title: Mom doesn't know she is moving in 3 weeks

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My mom has mild dementia (with a mental health issue also). She can still cook, clean and drive to familiar places. But has very little short term memory (forgets that she just ate something). And has become paranoid, delusional and taking out her anger on my frail Dad. So they are moving to a retirement community near me.   
  
But every time we tell her she is moving, she get agitated. So to reduce that we agree that she is moving next year, not this year. But it's going to happen in 3 weeks. I'm just dreading the fall-out. I'm dreading that I'm turning my Mom's world upside down and she has no idea it's coming.   
  
Anyone deal with this?

## Title: need advice - mom has to place dad in nursing home, I'm worried about her living alone during this difficult process

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My parents are both elderly (80s). Dad has dementia, and has become very abusive. Mom has been caretaker for years. She has to place dad, for her own safety, and for his well-being.   
  
I'm very worried about what this is going to do to her. They haven't spent a night apart in over 50 years. I'm worried she may have a nervous breakdown, and that her health will decline (she is already struggling with health issues)  
  
Any advice, suggestions, experiences would be greatly appreciated.

## Title: newly diagnosed family--advice or kind words?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Hi all. My mom has recently been diagnosed with vascular dementia at the age of 73 and is struggling badly with the diagnosis and her changing cognitive ability. She is likely experiencing some sundowner-like symptoms. She is crying a lot, often in the evenings, repeating things like "I just want to be me".   
  
She's always been a powerhouse in the family, thinking of herself as a bit of a matriarch--always caring for others, taking care of house and home, etc. Very "in control" of herself and, in her eyes, her family. That said, she's clearly not coping with me needing to take over handling the finances, or my sibling and I doing more around the house. I've tried to get her to talk about what she's feeling. I imagine there is a grieving process involved here, voluntary or involuntary, for all of us.   
  
She's also been a caretaker for our father for a few years now--he is not in good shape physically, and we are faced with the fact that we will need to move them out of their house and into a place that is equipped to care for them. My wife and live out of state, but I'm within a day's drive and am spending more time with my parents as I can. My sibling lives in here in the same town with them.  
  
Last week, her doc told her that this could be the most difficult time of her illness because she is still alert enough to be aware of it and of her mental struggles. She even hinted that things would get easier when she is no longer cognitively aware enough to know of her illness. I don't know the truth of that, but I'm reaching out here, with tears in my eyes, asking for kind words and any advice.

## Title: mom thinks we hate her, how do we deal?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: She has had Alzheimer's for about 3 years now. Her paranoia has gotten worse over the past 4 months. She thinks we hate her, we're laughing at her, her husband (my father) and I(her daughter) are having an affair. There is 3 versions of my dad, 2 versions of me if we're lucky. She won't go to a mental health professional because she says they're idiots and she knows more than they do. Also they're trying to hurt her. She has also been talking about suicide more and more... is this normal??  
  
The doctors are less then helpful, shrugging (literally) the things we tell them off.  
  
Any suggestions on how to tell a balling woman we're not trying to hurt her and we love her?   
  
I'm sorry for being all over the place but I am at a loss on what to do. The literature isn't being too helpful...

## Title: What Should I do? [caring for an elderly with Alzheimer's]

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My grandma has Alzheimer's disease. Every night, she would always say that last night she slept across the street at some stranger's house with my mom. We tried to tell her that she never spent a night there, but she insisted that she is right, and she would get mad every time we tried to convince her otherwise. She said that every morning, my mom would greet her outside our house.   
  
I'm not sure what I should do with this situation. Should we comply with her and agree that she spent every night sleeping across the street? Or should we continue to try to convince her that she never slept across the street. I am really confuse. HELP?

## Title: Confusion after waking, especially in the evening hours

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: So my great grandmother hasn't been diagnosed clinically with dementia, but we're 99 percent sure she having early stages of it.  
  
Sometimes she'll ask us who lives in the house with us, where she is, that the house doesn't actually feel like our home. She's having a hard time recognizing voices aswell

## Title: Grandmother with Alzheimer's

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Hi Reddit,  
My grandparents are stuck with us because of COVID-19 and have been in the US since February (they live in Mexico). They were staying with my aunt up North and recently came down to try to get back home. They have been staying with us for a couple of weeks, and it is so tough watching my grandmother. She is in mid to late stages of Alzheimer's, and it deeply saddens me. She looks for my grandfather when he is right next to her and very visible. When she goes to the rr, she can't find the toilet, forgets to wipe and wash her hands. She forgets she eats right after she eats. She wakes up distressed, trying to figure out where she is and who the heck is around. She's clueless a lot of the times and doesn't notice when people get home or when they are speaking to her. She doesn't remember who I am, or who her children are. When she speaks to us, she mostly thinks she's speaking to strangers. I don't know how to deal with this. I apologize if this sounds rude or something; I have never been in this situation. Throughout my years of studying psychology, I have learned a lot about Alzheimer's but never had to witness it firsthand. I am afraid of what's to come as I know that it only gets worse from here. I wonder if she knows she's a little lost or if they lose that part of themselves too. I wonder how much it tears her children apart (my mother and aunt included) if it's affecting me too. They are much closer to her.

## Title: Help! Moving mother to dementia care

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Hi.   
  
Thanks for taking the time to read (and maybe respond) to this. 5 days ago I moved my mother, 80, into dementia care. She has Alzheimers and had been living alone. She was kind of managing, with me doing everything, plus a cleaner to deal with all the food she'd leave rotting in the sink etc, but had no short term memory (eg we'd order food somewhere and 30 seconds later would try and order again) and very confused long term memory (couldn't remember her brother had died, or where I had grown up, for example). She was right on the precipice of getting lost; couldn't remember her address and would frequently ask how to get home from the one local restaurant she would go to—50m from her flat. She often gets confused about whether she was awake or dreaming etc.  
  
So, based on that and advice from doctor and family (my aunt is a retired aged care nurse) moved her into a home. She thinks it temporary while work is done on her apartment. She is very unhappy and I can understand why. It's a really nice home in a modern building with a garden, hair dressers, cafe and quite a lot of residents; certainly not cheap. But despite her memory issues and confusion, she is still quite alert and in much better shape than most of the residents; lots of people in wheelchairs nodding off etc. Of course, she thinks she is totally fine and looks around at all the "old people" who "have dementia… or worse!" and is very disturbed. She's refuses to try and talk to anyone and just hides out in her room.  
  
Basically she is caught in the grey area between not being able to safely operate in the world, but not being so out of it that she just takes it all in her stride. With Covid re-spiking in Sydney (by 'spiking', I mean 12 cases yesterday), the homes have all gone back in to lock down so only window visits and no taking her out.  
  
My great fear is that I have put her in too early. The home and her friends say no. I'm struggling with a lot of guilt, grief and anxiety about what I've done.   
  
Does anyone have any experience they could share about this issue—ie a parent being put in care who can't seem to find other residents at 'their level' and how to maybe make her life easier for her?  
  
Thanks!

## Title: Needing Advice Going Forward.

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: Shortly after my Grandfather died, my 83 year old grandmother chose to live with my family. The last few years have been fine until just before Christmas. After researching the subject, she has what I would consider Dementia and her regular doctor would agree but has not written a formal diagnosis as of last week.  
  
This last week has been a frightening experience for my whole family. She has begun wandering around the yard disoriented and wanting to call 911 because "nobody is around anymore."  
  
I've come to the realization our family is not equipped to face this challenge. She has access to the outside from her room and I'm waking up after 2-3 hours in fear of what happens next.  
  
We have intentions of moving her to a Memory Care facility. Tonight I could not sleep, thoughts of her screaming at me for betraying her for moving her to a safer environment.  
  
What are my steps? What do you wish someone would had told you in this situation? What things do I have to know?  
  
Thank you for your time and advice.

## Title: Should my grandmother move to a memory care unit or in with my parents?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: My grandmother has dementia, I’m not 100% sure as I don’t think anyone has officially had her tested, it’s just “dementia”. I don’t think my family really understood until recently how bad it was. From my research, she’s a late stage 5, early stage 6 Alzheimer’s.   
  
She’s been “a bit forgetful” for about 10 years now, but in recent years we learnt that she doesn’t shower, doesn’t cook, has regular accidents etc. when she’s stressed or anxious she has difficulty with names/faces, but is generally good with her family or people she’s known a long time.   
  
My grandfather recently passed quite suddenly and we had to move her into an aged care facility as she can’t live by herself. This also revealed to us how much she relied on him to not look sick.   
  
Her condition has significantly worsened since being there, she’s always confused, upset, angry. It’s not a dementia friendly place at all and the nurses aren’t the best at handling it. There’s no cues as to what time of day it is, the building is confusing and hard to find the dining/lounge room, etc.   
  
She has regularly said that she may as well not exist anymore as she has nothing to live for and she’s mad at the family for dumping her there. A couple of times I have found notes in her room with her name, my grandfathers name, their address and phone number, kids names, and usually the words “help” or “take me home”.   
  
My parents have a “guest house” that they currently use as an air bnb, and are considering moving her in there. From my mum and my research, it’s a dementia friendly space and there are slight modifications we can make to make it more enabling for her. We’d also get home help, a morning or overnight nurse etc.   
  
We could bring her furniture from home, give her simple tasks, take her out for activities.   
  
More important than that is that she’d be around family more, have more independence and get her self confidence back. From my research she’s a late stage 5, early stage 6 Alzheimer’s   
  
We’re aware that as she moves through stage 6 and into stage 7, she will get worse and will need to go into a dementia specific care place.   
  
Is it worth moving her now, to my parents, only to move her again in a year or so?  
  
If she does move in to my parents (it’s actually a separate unit, self contained but with easy access to their house), what extra care would she need that we might have overlooked.   
  
Or should we look at sending her straight to a memory care unit?

## Title: seeking tips for upcoming trip with grandma

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: hi there,   
  
there is a trip to a camp that our family has made every year for 50 years. it's a regional conference for churches which my grandparents have always loved.   
  
however, many people in their generation have passed on or are not able to travel. also... grandpa passed away a few months ago from a very brief bout of cancer.  
  
most of the time grandma does not seem to be aware that grandpa has passed away, she is calm when we don't mention him outright and can get very very upset sometimes when his illness and death are recalled. it's like she's experiencing it all over again, with the added pain that she can't go visit him or see him again.   
  
they were married 65 years.  
  
this will be the first year without grandpa. she is 88. she can walk around and is very familiar with this camp in one sense, but in another sense she doesn't even remember that she still lives in her own home. she is aware that she has a relationship with her daughters and me, but does not recall the type of relationship (mother/daughter, granddaughter) or our names or how long we all know each other or, again, where she even is at the time (one of our homes which she should know)...   
  
so any tips please?! how to keep track of her while retaining her dignity and self respect. we have a room in the lodge right across from the bathroom and i want to hang a sign on the door with her name or our family name so she will think to herself "well, this must be my room."  
  
is it realistic to ask friends from the camp to keep from talking about grandpa's illness and death too much? i would rather have her recall happy memories/her emotions about being near him and connected to him.

## Title: My grandma doesn't remember being visited?

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Hello!  
  
&#x200B;  
  
My 90-year-old grandmother has dementia. She lives in a care facility and is visited by one of her children once a day- we have a schedule set up for her so she never has a day without a visit.  
  
&#x200B;  
  
The problem is, she doesn't remember being visited, and will tell whoever is there that day that no one ever visits her, that she hasn't seen x person in months (they were there two days ago), etc. I know we are not supposed to correct her as this causes confusion and distress, but she is already highly distressed. She has always been all about her family, and she gets extremely distraught feeling like her family is gone and no one ever comes to see her. "Where is everybody?" "Why does John never come visit me?" and occasionally aggressive- "Why haven't you come to see me in so long?"  
  
&#x200B;  
  
What can we do in this situation? How can be reassure her that her family is there for her without making her more upset? It's so upsetting to us to see her so upset, I just wish she could comprehend that her children do come to see her every day.

## Title: Grandma wanting to go "home"

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: For context, my mom, grandma, and I have lived in the house we currently live in for 9 years. The past few months, my grandma has mentioned going home every night. She seems to think someone brought her here sometime during the day. It gets bad to the point where she has packed suitcases of her stuff so she could go home. I'm worried that she is going to try and actually "go home". Thankfully, we do not have a car so I don't have to worry about that but I'm still scared she's going to run away in the middle of the night.  
Does anyone have any tips on how to deal with this?

## Title: reminding an alzheimers patient that a loved one is dead

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Hey. My grandmother (88) has alzheimers/dementia. It was at an okay stage but it deteriorated when my aunt, her youngest daughter who lived with her and her kids, got cancer and eventually died less than a year later. She saw her body so that she would believe us and grieved and cried and everything. Afterwards, my other aunts started having her stay with them for a while and she was basically moving between like 3 houses every couple of months which i now realize is really bad as this destroys routine and consistency but what's done is done.   
  
Anyway, she finally returned home yesterday which she didn't remember at all or her grandkids who lived there until she actually saw the house. When she got there she began to ask about my aunt. She can't speak very well and her sentences are very very loose and vague but we can make out that she's asking about her. It's been brought up a couple of times and no one know show to address. We just switch conversations and try to distract her. We're not sure if we should keep doing this or show her a picture of her and ask her if this is the person she's asking about? But to do that we'd have to be ready to tell her she's no longer around and deal with the circumstances of that.  
  
I think it wouldn't hurt her to forget about her as incredibly painful as that sounds considering she took care of her all her life. It would only cause pain and confusion. I'm not sure what to do.

## Title: My Grandmother's Dementia?

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: So, my grandfather passed away this Sunday and my family didn't want to tell my grandmother until a better time as her blood pressure and mind was calmer. Come Tuesday night, her sons came to tell her that her husband has passed at the age of 90+. My grandmother is about 86.   
  
It has only been around 10 hours since she was given the news. As a family, we know that she has memory issues. At about 3:00AM, she got up and started walking and I got in front of her by asking what you are doing. She asked me where her husband is.   
  
I'm not sure how bad her dementia (or if it's alzheimers) is. She sort of has a fixed schedule throughout the day where she would eat at certain times, start cooking rice and etc. She doesn't do anything but sit around, nap, sleep or stare into the distance.   
  
She does ask a lot of questions as to where everyone is. If I was working overnight (which I don't anymore) and etc. She knows when my mother comes home because she works a fix schedule.   
  
How do you cope with this? (I fear that continually telling my grandmother that her husband has passed away is bad for her health and that we have to continue to say he is at the hospital). (As well as, she has severely bad hearing, so, communicating with her is a very hard task.)

## Title: Advice for consoling grandma with dementia

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: I see my 93 year old grandma once or twice a week to spend time with her. She is still with it enough to know her brain isn’t doing well (forgetting important dates when she used to be a walking calendar, difficulty remembering words and conversations, inability to remember who is who and who has visited her). She’s stressed about this, independently verbalizes her brain isn’t good and gets upset over this. I don’t know how to approach this topic with her. For what it’s worth she’s in independent living with a live in helper.

## Title: I don't know what to do.

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Hello. My grandmother has dementia, I recently found out. Although I kind of knew that she was showing symptoms of it, now I realize how bad it actually is.   
  
My mother doesn't really have a strong relationship with my grandmother, they normally see each other once or maybe twice a year, they also live pretty far away from one another. I think when we visited my grandmother in 2018, she was already being a bit forgetful: occasionally repeating words and phrases in sentences. In 2019/begin 2020 we visited her again, she did not seem to recognize me at first when she opened the door. She went upstairs, and showed us CABINETS and WARDROBES full off unnecessary stuff, which she compulsively bought. Rows and rows of the same cleaning product, toilet paper, et cetera. I don't think that we really visited her after that. (Until recently)  
  
Just a few weeks ago, my grandmother (she is usually very cold and blunt) called my mother in a deeply emotional state, begging her to come by once. My mother asked if it was okay to see her that same day, which my grandmother initially accepted.  
  
However, just 30 minutes or so before the appointment she said she wasn't 'feeling well' so my mother shouldn't come. She didn't, but a couple of days later she did. When my mother arrived, she found her own mother lost in dementia. My grandmother has formed this narrative which she says every single time when she's talking to someone:   
  
"Oh, did you know I got fired from my job? The business closed down." THIS WAS 15 YEARS AGO.  
  
"Hey, I renovated my kitchen." 10 YEARS AGO.   
  
Yesterday, I went with my mother to see my grandmother. She did not recognize both of us. We brought some food, because she is terribly skinny and keeps forgetting to eat. My mother had to explain that she was her daughter, I think she understood that. She kept asking for my age, and awkwardly asked me what my name was, and where we lived.   
  
Care: She can not live by herself without help anymore. We can't go there every day to take care of her, but, there is a friendly neighbour at the other end of the street who helps her and chats with her occassionally. He is truly a kind man, but it is also very strenuous for him. He is getting literal physical pain because of the intensity of taking care of my grandmother, poor soul. We have contacted my grandmother's doctor (she has not been officially diagnosed yet) who is very, lazy I would call it. He refused to get help for my grandmother and was overall just lacking. After some pushing, we have managed to get a caretaker to take care of my grandmother, but onfortunately, it starts in JANUARI! My grandmother still has a driving license and is still driving, which should be taken from her. I don't know what stage she is in, however, I would guess stage 5 of Alzheimer's.   
  
Damn, I just realized how much I wrote. If anyone actually read all of that: Thank you. I don't know what we can do at this point.

## Title: How do I handle this situation in the best way possible?

### Is this belong to memory loss? No

Post: So my grandma (75) on my mom’s side has Alzheimer’s and it’s been a while now. My grandpa takes care of her but my mom (47) does a lot too to help such as cooking food, cleaning her house and all that. And then there’s me (21) I see my grandma a couple of times a week because we live super close. Basically my grandma keeps forgetting that she is retired from work and so everyday she gets dressed and goes walking to her “work” (it’s a 5-6 mins walk from her house). We always tell her that she’s retired everyday but it doesn’t seem like she’ll ever understand or remember and I understand that there isn’t much we can do right? But my mom is having a hard time accepting all this and all she does is YELL at my grandma. I can’t take it anymore. I can see my grandma being confused and I see that she’s getting dizzy. I know for a FACT that you should not show anger or frustration in front of someone who had Alzheimer’s and DEFINITELY TO NOT YELL AT THEM. She is making her feel bad that she can’t remember. Just now she told my grandma “are you trying to punish us?”  
Am I wrong for being absolutely disgusted with what she is saying. I have told my mom over and over again that we can’t act like this in front of her and that it is not her fault that she’d forgetting. We cant make her feel bad for it, she doesn’t know. And when I explain this to my mom she yells at me because I’m not the one really “taking care” of her and says “maybe you should cook and bathe her maybe you’ll understand”. Okay like I get it it’s hard but like you’re not helping at the end if you’re talking to her aggressively.   
My mom also forces her to put on manicure when my grandma says that she doesn’t want to. Idk man there’s other things but I don’t know what to do...

## Title: Maybe this is a dumb question, but is it better to always go along with my grandma's confused memories?

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My grandma is in a nursing home after breaking her hip (a blessing in disguise as it finally got my parents and aunt to understand she couldn't live at home even with a 24h nurse anymore). Anyway now that she's there, she's much happier, and doesn't cry and beg you to take her home, so it's much easier to go visit. I love to see her, we talk about what nail polish we like and all sorts of girly fun things. But she doesn't know that I'm her granddaughter all the time so she'll talk to me about more serious things too sometimes. I always feel she's much happier when I just talk to her and go along with whatever she is saying. I never correct her unless she asks me a question and I feel like it makes her happier. However my mom and aunt still try to remind her of things, like that my grandpa died or that she's not at home/work/wherever. I just feel like why tell her, why remind her of these things? I wouldn't want to find out every day that my husband died. But I don't know. Am I wrong in playing into her delusions so much? I just want to make her as happy as possible but I don't want to do something that would adversely affect her either. This is all so confusing and I guess I just need an outsiders opinion because I don't really have anybody to ask.

## Title: Grandmother now has no official picture ID... In a jam

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: crosspost from r/Alzheimers  
  
Hello Everyone,  
  
  
  
I am in a bit of a jam.  
  
  
  
My grandmother stopped driving about 4 years ago. Her driver's license has expired in that time. Does anyone know how or what I can do to get a new form of ID for her?  
  
  
  
I have a Durable Power of Attorney for her in order to manage her finances and bills. Is there anything I can do myself without trying to drag her into a state ID facility? I doubt she would be able to answer any questions... she has deteriorated quite a lot in the past few months. I assume to even get a state ID you have to answer questions...  
  
  
  
Documents of hers I DO currently have:  
  
  
social security card  
  
  
expired licence  
  
  
POA signed by her as well as me  
  
  
I might be able to get a copy of her birth certificate... though I am unsure.  
  
  
I am just kind of stressing out, because I only realized today she has no "real" form of picture ID and this may be come a big problem later.  
  
  
  
Thank you all for any help, and I hope you are doing as well as possible. The holidays can be a hard time for people affected by this terrible illness.

## Title: Help grandfather through grief

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Hi,  
My grandmother passed away on friday after a period of illness.   
My grandfather is very progressed in his dementia and has regressed to childhood memories only and his native language.   
  
He understands to some extent that we are family and sometimes that he has a daughter (my mom).. he has glimpses where he is more lucid but for the past months of my grandmother's illness, he seems to have thought that she was his mom.   
  
When he was informed of her passing on Friday he broke down, by the time they arrived t the hospital to see her body he had to be reminded about why he was there.  
  
He seems to have lost the ability to form any new memories.. How should we approach this? Is it more merciful to not inform him as he gets so upset? Or should we keep at it?

## Title: Father (85) passed away Saturday, mum (86) is struggling to make sense of it all. It's sad.

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: It's been a tough 48 hours. My mum is struggling to make sense of the situation, although is more often understanding it's her husband of 64 years who has died. She still wants to tell his mother and aunt, both of whom died 20 or more years ago, and her own mother who died 40 years ago. It's hard to see her feeling so lost. We're being super patient, and helping her cope, but it's so tough to have to keep reminding her that we're it now.   
  
I also have to move her into a home now, as dad was her carer. So much change in so little time. We lost him suddenly, with little warning. As mum keeps saying, you never what is going to happen next.

## Title: My grandmother has lived in the same house for 57 years, and now she is convinced that we've moved to a house "down the shore"

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: She is in the late stages of alzheimers, and every night she asks me "Have you ever been here before?" And I say of course and explain to her that we are still in the town we have lived in for over half a decade, which just confuses her and then she will ask again in a minute or two.  
  
My question is what can I do to make her realize that she is home?

## Title: Advice on how to speak to my Mom

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My 71 year old mother has been dealing with Alzheimer's for many years. I've been bathing her about a year now. Dad turns off gas and locks doors ( supplying details to give a frame of reference ).  
  
She often talks about going home to check on her parents (gone for 20 years) or kids (I'm her youngest at 34 years old) or whatever. She yells at my dad to take her home all the while saying their current home is actually her house her dad got for her (it isn't).  
  
We are managing, but what's best to say to her? When she pleads to me to pick her up and take her home? Most if the time, I can change the topic and she forgets eventually, but sometimes she gets fixated. Do I go pick her up and drive around? Do I gently remind her she is home? Do I just listen? What's best in your experiences?

## Title: Needing Help convince reality of identities.

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Needing help with my wife(69) who was diagnose last January with AD. Since the end of October she has had difficulty recognizing me as her husband and confusing me with someone with the same name and very similar (in her mind). It does seem to come and go but often when she doesn't recognize me she wonders where I am and where I've been. Yesterday it kind of came to a head when she confronted me (she knew who I was) with where I've been. She also thinks she's not living in her home where we've lived for almost 35 years. How have some of you handled this type of thing? Is it possible to ask her to identify something on she and I would know for her to understand who I am? Very frustrating and any help or advice is appreciated. Thanks in advance.

## Title: Groundhog’s Day From Hell

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: So my father just passed away yesterday. My mother has ALZ and asks “where is Bill?” every few hours and she basically has to re-live the news of his passing. I fear that this will completely break her. Is it OK to just string her along with some white lies and shift her attention to something else? Or do we have to continually explain that he has passed?  
  
Thanks in advance.

## Title: Grandma wants to go “home”

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Hey guys, joined this sub for a little advice. My great grandma is 95 and has had alzheimers/dementia for a few years but it’s only gotten kind of bad the past year or so. Me and a few other family members take turns coming to her house to watch her, and also have cameras at the house for when no one is there.   
  
23 years ago, she moved out of the house she had been in for most of her life, and moved into her current house when she married her husband (he’s now passed away). Her old house was sold to my aunt but it looks nothing like it used to, anyway.   
  
Sometimes, like today, she’ll constantly say she wants to go home. When I say this is home, she’ll say something along the lines of “this is my home yes but I don’t live here, I want to go where I was this morning” even though she slept here the night before. I don’t have a car so I can’t bring her to my aunt‘s house anyway to go along with it, but even when someone else was here my aunt got tired of having to deal with her coming up there almost daily.   
  
What should I do in this situation?

## Title: My[24f] grandma[83f] keeps asking to go home when she's at the house she's lived in for 50 years

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: My grandma is 83 and has had early dementia for the past two years and she keeps telling us she wants to go home to her "house in the woods." She tells us this multiple times a day, when she's at the house she's lived in for 50+ years. Nothing's changed at the house it still looks the same etc. She starts to get agitated and insists we take her home. This is really the only thing that she does besides asking the same thing over and over and it only happens early in the morning or late at night. I don't get frustrated at her, because I know she can't help it, but it does make me sad because she's like a second mom to me and has been all of my life.  
Does anyone know why she does this and how to help? It makes me sad because I wonder why she doesn't recognize the home she's lived in for so long. Thanks for any help.

## Title: Are medications an option for handling aggression and agitation in severe dementia? Advice needed please.

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: First I should mention she is in the nursing home, so she is at least safe and taken care of.  
  
It's interesting because she has what I guess they would consider fairly severe and advanced dementia, however, she still remembers people. She almost always remembers us, friends, other family, neighbors from 40 years ago. Every once in awhile she'll need reminding but over all that part of her memory is somewhat intact.  
  
She doesn't remember places, homes, towns, anything like virtually at all and thinks north is south and vice versa. She's been in the nursing home for over a year now, but never remembers her room and constantly thinks she's in a different room. For some reason the last month or two she's latched on to the idea that every time my Dad and I come to visit we're there to take her home, even though she doesn't even remember where "home" supposedly is.   
   
Her issues are further complicated by the fact that she was in a freak accident at the nursing home last year and had a lot of trauma from it. Just to give a short idea - her back was broken, her pelvis was broken in two places, she had 7-9 fractured ribs, her left leg was broken in 4 places with two major compound fractures one which required a skin graft and her heel was crushed, and the other leg was broken in 2 places I believe. I don't know how much metal she has in her legs now but it's a lot, in addition to already having two false knees from before. After hours and hours of multiple surgeries, she recovered remarkably well, especially for being 86 at the time of such a traumatic accident. However, she did lose the ability to walk so she can't use the restroom on her own, etc. She is wheelchair bound now though she actually is in fairly good shape physically. She just never regained enough strength and mobility after the accident to walk again.  
  
This creates a problem in itself because she can't remember that she can't walk anymore and tries to stand up to "prove us wrong" all the time or show people that she can walk. We didn't really worry about it too much because we didn't think she had enough upper body strength to pull herself out of the wheelchair but apparently that is not the case because the other day she managed to get out without hurting herself and was sitting on the floor putting her shoes on getting ready to "go home" when the staff found her.  
  
We haven't been able to get her out of that delusion. So now any time we visit she becomes inconsolable and varies between violent anger and crying the entire time while yelling at us, staff, other residents, and anyone who's around. She's still verbal but limited in that a lot of what she says is delusional or non-sensical. It's impossible to reason with her or calm her down because she can't hold conversation anymore. We used to be able to just steer the conversation a different direction or remind her that she used to be happy at the nursing home, but it's not working anymore.  
  
At this point it's getting more and more aggressive (kicking things, kicking her wheel chair, throwing things) and we're afraid she's going to start lashing out at us, the staff, or the other residents.  
  
She is on Ativan as needed but it's not enough anymore. At this point Dad and I don't know what to do anymore. Do we just stay away completely in case we are triggering the upset? Then she's just sad and asks about us and is mad thinking we don't care. We can't just go visit her and be yelled at and abused the entire time, that's not good for anyone involved. The staff is frustrated, we're frustrated, and I'm sure she isn't happy as well and that's the most heartbreaking thing. Our goal has been to preserve whatever quality of life she can have for as long as possible, especially after the accident, but I know she's miserable all the time right now.  
  
Did any of your loved ones go through this stage? Any recommendations or advice would be super helpful!   
  
EDIT: I should mention - surprisingly she's in fairly little ongoing pain from the accident. Her worst leg and her back does get sore sometimes, in addition to arthritis in her hands but she is still very good about speaking up when she has pain and we and the staff make sure to ask frequently if she's in any pain. So they're fairly certain she's not lashing out in response to physical pain.

## Title: Any good resources for learning more about dementia and its treatment?

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: I'm a psych nurse but have worked with younger patients mostly, presenting with schizophrenia and personality disorders. My mom is rapidity progressing through dementia and I find myself at a loss on how to respond to her, how to keep her safe and comfortable. She lives at home with my dad, who is bed bound 2d to strokes. There is a caretaker there 24 hours and my sister and I visit daily. Mom has started to try to "go home". She asks over and over for us to take her home and does not recognize that she is in the house she's lived in for 40 years. Any advice or sources of information are welcome.

## Title: So hard to talk to my mom because she has no short term memory and just wants to go home

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Sorry if this is a long post....  
  
My mom's dementia leaves her with pretty much zero short term memory. Approximately 2 months ago she fell and was put in hospital. My dad has done his best to care for her but he is 85 (mom is 83) and he just can't do it. She is going to be pannelled and is in a transitional unit in a hospital. All she wants to do is go home, she doesn't know why she is there (she had broken her shoulder, had an infection, and we found out she has lung cancer). She consistently thinks she is leaving that day, she thinks she has been fine and doing everything at home (my dad has been doing everything for the last few years including meals, cleaning - all she would do was stay in a chair in her tv room as much as he tried to get her involved and go out).   
  
Visiting mom now consists of explaining why she is there (she doesn't have any recollection from minute to minute it seems of what we tell her), where she is, that we are always there (she is so lonely because no one ever visits - she doesn't ever remember anyone visiting her even though my dad is there twice every day and my sister and I try to be there alternating every 2-3 days). She doesn't remember the people she sees every day at every meal.   
  
I have been trying to do the distracting thing, telling her just gentle basic info that won't upset her (you are almost ready to go home, etc - although she will probably be in a PCH) and then talking about the grandkids, family, weather and whatever else, but it is getting harder and harder to distract her. We don't know how much time she has left, and it is breaking my heart that all conversations just consist of "I want to go home? What time is Dad picking me up? Why am I here? I don't understand" etc. I don't care if she thinks I'm her sister (she does that a lot, and I'm fine with that, I don't even correct her - - if it makes her happy and talking about good memories, I'm all for it) but it is harder to get her on other topics. Also, her comprehension in general seems to be getting worse.   
  
I know that everyone here is dealing with some form of dementia, alzheimers and so forth, and I'm hoping that you can let me know how you deal with a parent or loved one in this situation, and how do you get beyond it emotionally? I hate myself for saying this, but it makes it so difficult to visit her.   
  
Thank you for any advice you can give.

## Title: Grandma (85) thinks people are in her house when she's gone (I made sure she has cams in and outside)

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: Okay so I'm going to try and get to the point. She's been "difficult" as a younger woman and girl from what I've learned. Not sure if there's a condition that worsens and develops into dementia at some point? But it's gotten worse over time. Especially since she's alone now (grandfather passed in 2016 at 86). I did everything I could considering I live a couple of hours away now. I'd come to town and just fight through the negativity to help.  
  
 Every little thing she notices out of place makes her think someone is coming in the house just to mess with her. Honestly there's a rat issue that still hasn't completely resolved, and they might be the culprit. She had been saying for almost a year or longer someone is coming in, even accused me and another family member. I insisted she got cameras inside the house to monitor anything unusual. I have access to her security system, and found her to do some strange things when she alerted me of someone coming in. Like, she made coffee, poured it into a bowl, and just .. Idk what she did with it? She insisted someone came in to cook food, another time someone left dishes she didn't recognize, left dirty rags, moved some things, put clothes on the floor, etc. The list goes on. Security company finds nothing unusual, but she just gets angry and accuses people of trying to "make her like she's crazy".   
  
I always tell her she can call the company if she wants to review footage of a particular time, see if they see anything. She never wants to anymore because they will tell her nothing happened. She started covering the cameras so no one could look at her when she didn't want them to. Of course I never checked footage unless she insisted something happened.  
  
Sometimes I feel uncomfortable taking any action because when police came after getting an emergency call, they suggested calling adult services and I quickly learned how terrible it can be dealing with them. They came in a vehicle with a flashing yellow light on top and made her feel totally uncomfortable. She fears someone wants to "take control" of her. This isn't a lie actually, because 3/4 of her kids excluding my mom and one grandkid took advantage of her financially. Long lasting family business basically went to shit over time and died bc of mismanaging funds and taking out loans under grandparents noses. I never did nor do I now want to take advantage, and I don't want her in a nursing home. I also understand she needs help, but a special kind of help abs support that won't stress her.  
  
 My mom and aunt will not bother to call her or return calls (aunt lives next door in house grandparents financed and rented to her about 30 years ago). They are her only surviving kids (one uncle died in 2015 and the other earlier this year), and the other 4 grandchildren don't bother checking on her at all.  
  
 It's just me trying and it's stressful (23) feeling as if I can't do shit. I haven't been able to emotionally take all of the things she's been saying (she can get quite verbal and personal unfortunately) without having to end the convo and I feel bad because I know she can't help it. But as I've seen, continuing the conversations have lead to health issues with other family members who have now passed (uncles, grandpa). There was a time I actually felt myself getting deeply stressed and unhealthy trying to save a failing business/deal with the fact that part of it failing had to do with her being irrational majority of the time (being rude/personal with customers and employees etc.) and had to step away and find my inner peace again. The business was dead by the time I tried to fix it all, and was financially drained. It started to work fine for a couple of months but ultimately the plug was pulled.  
  
She hasn't even been diagnosed with it and I know she won't get tested willingly. She's given me durable POA over properties, business, etc. (Excluding health) about a year ago or less, but revoked it after a mischievous family member got involved (they disappeared when they found out grandma had nothing to give). She's mentioned that her doctor suggested having someone look after her, but of course she was enraged at the thought. So yeah.. Probably hasn't gotten tested. My ideal circumstance is to have someone look after her at home where she's comfy, and not doped up on meds. Also, she's in bankruptcy and having a difficult time understanding things but wants no POA activated out of fear she'll be put away (even though I never had health POA). She will end up losing everything and my fear of her dying from stress will still be a threat if I don't get involved.  
  
  
Im sorry if it seems like I'm all over the place, I can barely think straight! I just want her at home, and to know the property etc. she wants to keep are safe so that she's happy. How do I get this ideal scenario for her? I know she'd still be furious about someone aiding her at home but it can't be as stressful as a nursing home. How do I ensure my POA is active again? This is hard.

## Title: My mom doesn't know me.

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: I live with my 85 y.o. mother. She’s been having issues with memory for the last 6-8 months that is getting worse. I think it’s been a problem more than I knew; now I feel she’s been hiding it. For a while it seems she has the impression that I am two different people taking care of her. She can’t explain it, but I inform her it’s just me living here with her.  
  
Two weeks ago, she became too confused to manage her Rx, so I took over with a pill organizer. She now needs to be told where and when her pills are. Then a week ago, she asked what my first name was.  
  
Last night, it came to a head. She doesn’t really know who I am. It was very hard to get her to go to bed (I was hoping a night’s sleep would get her back to speed, but it didn’t.) It’s coming out this morning that she doesn’t really know I’m her son. As I’m explaining our relationship, she thinks it’s like a movie that she has found out she has a son. I do have an estranged brother that she is aware of, but somehow the person she sees every day is a mystery.  
  
I go with her to her doctors appointments every month. I told him of her failing memory for the last 6 months, but he feels it is normal aging memory loss (he did do a verbal test I thought she failed, but guess not.). I pushed for medication to help, and he went with it. It didn’t help, obviously. I’m waiting for a call back on what I should do about this. She doesn’t know me – that’s not normal aging.  
  
I could use some guidance on where to go from here. Can anyone point me in a direction? Websites or recommend what specialists I should push for…

## Title: I suspect my grandmother is developing dementia and need to know how to go about it

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: A few years ago my grandmother was in hospital (aged 88) and because of the medication she was under, she kept showing common tropes of that of a person with dementia (delusion, forgetting peoples names, etc.) and was placed in a ward with patients of the same illness.  
  
She checked out of hospital after about a month and went back to normal every day life. She broke her hip last year and had to be in hospital again for about three months. She behaved the same kind of way she did last time and it took her a few days to fully recognise her house when she finally returned home (for the most part she would only recognise a couple bits of furniture).  
  
She's 91 now and she's aware her memory isn't what it used to be. She'll spend a great deal of time when I visit talking about the exact same things (religion, what she's watching on TV, etc.). I noticed last time I was there she confused me for my brother and kept referring to us by the wrong name. She also told us that she's lived in her house for the last sixty-odd years and raised six children there, as if my brother and I never knew that.  
  
A few months ago she asked to take a picture of my granda and brighten it up in photoshop since she never liked how it came out, and I brought it back a few months ago. Last time I was down at her house with my brother she was convinced it was my brother that had altered the picture and even gave him money for it.  
  
I want to try and visit her as often as I can and I want to know what I can do to when I visit her (how to stay patient when she gets confused, how to keep her on track with the conversation, etc.). I know this may sound insensitive to some people on this sub and I apologise for that, but I don't know where else to go

## Title: Waiting for mum to die

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: A few weeks ago, mum fell out of bed and broke her hip. Since then she has gotten worse. She has dementia and now is refusing to eat or take any medication.  
  
The home has her on morphine for the pain, so she's very sleepy and confused.  
  
She has said to me and my brother that she's sorry and that she's going soon.  
  
She's now on palliative care and we're just waiting... for her to die.  
  
I find I'm ok most of the time, but sometimes it gets to me. I'll receive a simple message, next thing I know I'm crying.  
  
Anyone else been through this, watching your parent die slowly?  
  
Dad died two years ago quite suddenly of a heart attack. She says she's seen him recently, that we're lying and keeping dad from her.

## Title: How do you all deal with the person wanting a family member who's long gone?

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: I know this is a part of dementia. Please don't waste your keystrokes. It's weird in a way but so is dementia. My grandmother's caretaker said that this morning she was talking about her mom and I think she mentioned something that alluded to her being alive but the caretaker (a distant family member) said she had long passed and said her mom had passed too. This kinda upset my grandmother who asked her to go ask my mom as if this would prove she's still alive. The caretaker mentioned that she seemed on the verge of tears.   
  
My grandmother was super close to her mom. I remember growing up, the only person she talked in detail about in terms of passing was her mom. She said she never thought she'd be able to live without her and that she has and was thankful for her mom for raising her and reassuring her she'd be fine when she left the earth. Knowing this, just saying she's no longer here isn't going to work and obviously isn't advised. She's aware that my mom is still around, she knows I and my sister are her grandkids. I never met my great grandmother. She passed when my mom was a child. My mom is going through an illness herself so i don't want that mental weight on her of seeing her mom decline more or have these distressing moments (they were close). What can I do to help her through these "blips"? What happens if they become more persistent? Thank you all!

## Title: How to answer grandmother's questions about where [recently deceased] grandfather is?

### Is this belong to memory loss? Yes

Post: She's 93. He passed away about two months ago at age 98. She and both of my parents were right there with him, in bed with him and holding him as he slipped away. My grandparents were married over 50 years. Her dementia is getting worse by the day. She keeps asking my mom where he (grandfather) is. Things we've tried and their results thus far:  
  
\* Telling her the truth, option 1. This results in her sobbing and shaking with fear for hours into the night. Then my mom is a mess too because having to retell it all and go through her mom re-learning this info is so awful. This one is happening less often now, being replaced by....  
\* Telling her the same truth, option 2. This results in her getting angry and wanting to know why we would tell such a lie, and demanding to know why we're treating him so poorly. This one is happening more often now.  
\* Telling her he's at an appointment or some other kind of "away and not here right now" fib. This results in her being upset that he's abandoned her and she freaks out that he's mad at her. I guess this anger/abandonment stuff was kind of a theme in their marriage for a while? I know he had a lot of PTSD after being in WWII and the Korean War, and would always openly talk about how much he missed his (deceased) first wife.  
  
We're out of ideas on what to tell her. And I'm not of the opinion anymore that the truth is the best option, as it seems to cause her so much repeated unnecessary distress. Has anyone else here been through something similar? If so, what did you tell them? How did you handle it? My mom can't keep doing this, her mom can't keep doing this, and I don't live with them so I'm not there to provide any in-person help. I also worry that inconsistencies in what she's being told might be adding to her confusion and distress. I think it might be best for a story to be chosen and then stuck to. Thoughts?  
  
Note: my dad is present in this and does his best to be supportive and helpful, but when my grandmother starts roaming the halls in the middle of the night looking for my grandfather, it's often my mom that she's looking to for help. It's also my mom that she looks to for confirmation of whatever's being told to her. Plus, she and my mom speak Cantonese together (she's defaulting more to Cantonese now as it's her first language) but my dad only speaks English.