

TRANSITIONS: Stories of how to help Mom and Dad with their stuff

The brother that sold Mom's special items

Dear Jean: "I'm furious with my brother. When we cleared out Mom and Dad's house, we took turns picking things. He picked the silverware that was from Grandma. Then he sold it. How dare he! It should have stayed in the family." **What is my answer?**

The Dreaded Dumpster!

Parents often proudly tell me that they don't need to start clearing out their very full house: "The kids can take care of it when we are gone", they say, like it's a gift.

Well, it happened again this week; I heard another "dumpster" story. It is a story I hear often. It doesn't end well.

How do the kids handle it when cleaning out the house is left to them, and they don't live in town?

If you have time for WORDS with Friends, you have time for words with Grandma

When 30 year-old Sam stopped in to see his grandma, she told him how much she missed her (adult) grandchildren, and that she never hears from them. She got really choked up, telling him how they are all so busy, and don't have time for her.... **What was his solution?**

Letting go of the family home

Last year I was at a big 4 bedroom home, meeting with a husband and wife who were in their 80's. They told me they had mentioned to their children several times that they want to move, but the kids had gotten quite upset. The son had actually yelled at her: "Mom, you can't sell our house!" He didn't even live in the same state.

What do you do if your kids don't want you to sell?

"Is this the right time to sell our house?"

When is the right time to sell the house you've been in for 55 plus years?