

Jimmy's vigil



Jimmy arrives by cab at 8 a.m.



False teeth in place, Jimmy joins his sister in the dining room for breakfast at 8:50 a.m.

Brother spends days at sister's side



After breakfast, Cathy receives her medication from nurse Carolyn Jacques at 9:05 a.m.

By Steve Fecht
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staff writers

Jimmy Creighton is at his sister's side all day, every day.

He takes a taxi one mile from his apartment and usually makes it to Middlebelt Nursing Centre in Livonia by 8 a.m. for breakfast in the dining room.

Jimmy, 86, and Cathy, 89, pass the day together until he takes a taxi home about 7 p.m. It's a routine he has kept since 1982 when Cathy was admitted.

The only time he leaves her side is when he goes to the rest room.

THEY DON'T talk much. And they don't touch much. But the consolation they give each other is apparent.

"As long as it's for some purpose, there's some good," said Jimmy — his Scottish accent left over from the "good ol' days" when he lived in Scotland with his parents and nine brothers and sisters.

Neither ever married, so they lived together for more than 30 years in Detroit.

"Never give up — that's an old Scottish saying, and it works," Jimmy said with a gummy laugh and a nod of his head.

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Staff photos by Steve Fecht