

Dear Mildred,

Happy holidays! I'm really looking forward to joining you at your house for the party. I'm connecting with you today to share how things have been going at our house so that you are "in the loop." While Pete and I are looking forward to visiting, we thought it might be helpful if you understood our current situation before we arrive.

You may notice that Pete has changed since you last saw him. Among the changes you may see are it takes him a bit longer to answer questions or he may close his eyes during conversation. He is experiencing some difficulty remembering and thinking clearly. Slowing down and giving him some extra time to answer can be very helpful to him.

Please also understand, Pete may ask you your name a few times. If I introduce you by name more than once, please don't feel offended by this. The words are a challenge but he knows the faces of everyone he loves.

Pete still enjoys being with people who share conversation with him. Talking about baseball, hearing old stories, and seeing pictures of the grandkids still bring him lots of joy.

We are making a salad together to bring to the party. We really appreciate spending this holiday with you! Please feel free to share this letter with the family or to call if you have any other questions.

Warmest Regards,

Betsy