

# Love Overcomes All Obstacles, Even Stairs



Mr. & Mrs. Lavoie\* have been married for decades, and lived together for years in their small home in Fort Bend County. As Mr. Lavoie aged, he had more and more trouble getting around, but that didn't impact the couple too much.

But eventually, age catches up to us all and Mr. Lavoie needed a wheelchair. After years in their home, he was no longer able to get up those few steps into their home.

Mrs. Lavoie refused to give up on her husband. After years together--surviving difficult times, working their entire lives, and raising children--she was not ready to give up so easily. Despite being a senior citizen herself, she would lift her husband up and down the front steps to the car, to make sure Mr. Lavoie could get to his doctor's appointments on time every few weeks.

This became a part of their daily lives. If the couple needed to drive to an appointment, run errands, or step out of the house, Mrs. Lavoie would lift her husband as best as she could to get him up and down the stairs.

They joined the Meals on Wheels program as the two realized they needed some extra assistance. A daily meal would mean less trips out to the grocery store, and less stairs to traverse. Our case manager, when doing a home assessment discovered the obstacles that Mrs. Lavoie went through just to make sure she could care for her beloved husband.

After a call to an amazing local nonprofit, Fort Bend Ramps, Mr. and Mrs. Lavoie could walk up and down the ramp into their home--no heavy lifting required. It took only one Saturday to complete the ramp and the family couldn't be happier.

Now, there are no obstacles preventing these two from getting out and about if needed. Just a small incline with their new handicapped accessible ramp.

This Valentine's Day, remember that love can overcome many challenges, and we at Fort Bend Seniors are here to help by providing services and referrals to the seniors of Fort Bend and Waller counties.



*\*Please note: As always, names and details may be changed for client confidentiality and clarity.*