

Everly House

Independent Senior Living



January 2018



Joe Sullivan, at home in the Everly House library. (Photos by Kathy Clauson)

Resident Interview: *Joe Sullivan*

When I started working at the Everly House, I already knew a few of the residents. Among them was Joe Sullivan. Joe worked with my dad Joe Myers at WIU. I remembered thinking Joe was the tallest man I ever met. On weekends my brother and I sometimes spent the day in Western Hall while dad worked, running the track, swimming, and playing badminton. When I met up again with Joe at the Everly House, he hadn't changed a bit. And it turns out Joe's son Tom shares some of the same great memories of Western Hall. Joe worked at WIU for 28 years.

Joe was born in Nauvoo, the oldest of 11 children. At an early age, Joe became a farmer. "I milked my first cow when I was six and in those days farming with done with horses, not tractors." Today he and his son farm about 800 acres. Joe also operates a top soil and gravel business. "I enjoy working with my son—we're real close." Joe also has two daughters—Jennifer in Chicago and Julie in Texas.

In addition to farming, Joe enjoys playing golf. "I was 45 when I started playing golf. I enjoy the company and the game." Joe also shared he is "lucky to still be able to do what he does at his age."

(continued on page 2)

This New Year's Eve, it is expected more than one billion people will watch the Times Square Ball Drop on television. The first ball drop was held on December 31st 1907 to promote Times Square as the new headquarters of the New York Times. Since 1907, the ball drop has been an annual event, except during 1942 and 1943 in observance of wartime black-outs. Below is a photo of the original ball, which was made of wood and iron, and lighted using 100 incandescent light bulbs.



Joe's son Tom, his granddaughter's friend Stephanie; his granddaughter Erin; and Joe at Family Night last fall.

