

Thanks so much for giving me the opportunity to share my Moms story. Her name was Ana Daniel but was affectionately called Poochie. Mom was a native Puerto Rican who moved to Washington D.C. at the age of 19 and was a federal employee. She and my Dad raised 7 children together. Poochie was an avid gardener, animal lover, scrabble champion and sports enthusiast.

In May 2019, Mom was secretly moved from her beloved home of forty years by her POAs unbeknownst to me and my brother. She was now living in an assisted living facility. By December 2019, my physically fit Mom was prevented from leaving the facility. She was deemed civilly dead.

By March 2020, the facility was on lockdown while covid ravaged through facilities. The New York Times referred to them as "Death Traps". Moms pleas to leave were ignored. The POAs refused to let her stay in my safe and loving home.

In April 2021, Mom sustained horrific facial injuries requiring a hospital stay. Two days later Poochie was returned back to the deadly and dangerous facility, isolated again. In May 2021, the facility lock down was lifted. All residents were free to come and go except my Mom.

In July 2021, my husband and I were banned and prevented from visiting my Mom. Her personal cell phone was removed as well as the land line in her room. We had no means to communicate. A judge had cleared me to visit with Mom. His directive was ignored.

On December 23, 2021, the facility relented and I was allowed to visit my Mom. December 24, 2021 the POA removed my Mom from the facility. Mom's location was hidden from me, my husband and her friends for 17 months. I wasn't sure she was even alive.

A couple weeks prior to Poochie's death, on June 8, 2023, I found her via three PIs and four lawyers. We were permitted visitation just three times before her passing. I hope these civil rights violations and abuses of our vulnerable seniors can be prevented. The separation, isolation and inability to visit with your loved one is heartbreaking and excruciating. Thanks again for allowing me this time to speak about this toxic national crisis.

Sincerely,

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