



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Brookmeade Community Couple Celebrate 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**

Jack and Betty Woods, Brookmeade Community Couple, celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at Meadows at Brookmeade Community. They have both been at Brookmeade Community since 2018. For senior citizens in the skilled nursing facilities, the COVID-19 pandemic can be particularly tough as visitation was suspended at the start of the pandemic but that did not stop Brookmeade Community and the Woods families from participating in this joyous occasion. It is a great reason to celebrate when a couple is able to live and love long enough to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary together. Jack, born in St. Albans, West Virginia, and Betty, born in Rhinebeck, NY, met in their early 20's and were married in 1950. Jack said "The way I proposed to Betty was one day I looked at her and said "let's get married" and we did! The Woods have been inseparable ever since. Together, the couple has 1 daughter, 3 sons, 8 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren. When Jack is asked what the secret to such a long marriage he said "To always say Yes Dear and to check on her always". When asked Betty she said "Just to love him and make sure his nearby".

Big plans with family and friends, however, are hard to make in the autumn of the pandemic. On October 7<sup>th</sup> the Woods couples celebrated and were cheered on by their via Zoom. The Woods couple felt the incredible kindness and support as the celebrations were setup by Brookmeade staff and assisted by the Woods family. Family members have expressed their appreciation and was very gracious for the help we were to make this milestone special for them.

"We want to celebrate and we want to recognize and say thank you to the Woods couple for this beautiful love story and for the staff for going above and beyond, showing compassion and kindness to get our couple to celebrate with their loved ones" said Karen Zobel, CEO &

Administrator “We proactively closed our doors early March prior to the mandated closing and our residents have been unable to receive visitors in person as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. With the assistance of Social Services and dedicated staff our residents have become accustomed to visiting their families and loved one through video chatting platforms and window visits. Our staff has conducted over 6,000 virtual and window visitations.

**About The Brookmeade Community:** The Community at Brookmeade, located on 75 country acres just outside the Village of Rhinebeck, is a senior living retirement community serving the Hudson Valley and surrounding areas. Arbor Ridge offers independent living, The Terraces offers assisted living, and Meadows provides long term care, sub-acute rehabilitation, palliative care and Out-Patient Rehabilitation Services. Meadows Adult Day Healthcare Program, medical & social model, providing independence and wellness.









