



*Married  
Fifty years  
But  
Mom no longer  
Knows him*

*Dedicated  
Dad  
But  
He no longer  
Cares*

*Doctors  
Say his  
Illness  
Is severe  
Depression*

*And for  
Our family  
Many  
Things have  
Changed.*

*He used  
To be  
The one  
Who gave us  
Guidance*

*Now he  
Rarely  
Makes  
Decisions for  
Himself*

*We cannot  
Trust  
The product  
Of his  
"Reason"*

*Dad's lost;  
He  
Cannot  
Find his own  
Way home.*

*All drugs*

*The doctors  
Tried  
Were worse than  
Useless*

*Each  
Physical  
Exam  
Proved  
"Nothing wrong"*

*This  
Once-strong  
Man shows  
Clear signs of  
Dementia*

*He sits  
Alone and  
Looks  
Down at his  
Shoes.*

*Mom  
Supervises  
Every  
Waking  
Moment*

*She has  
No time  
For  
Anything her  
Own*

*She did  
Not plan  
To  
Babysit her  
Husband*

*We pray  
She can  
Survive  
The non-stop  
Strain.*

*He  
Worries  
Constantly  
About  
"The money"*

*He's sure  
His savings  
Won't sustain  
Him to the  
End*

*But  
We will  
See him through  
This time of  
Trouble*

*Our family  
Is  
Dad's  
Strongest  
Safety net.*

## Credits:

Poem, by Carole Bos, for forthcoming book *Family Is a Safety Net*.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Dad>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Dad>

## Media Stream



### Dad

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/>