Mother-in-law's Alzheimer's keeps couple tied to home

DEAR ABBY: I have been married 35 years. During the last six years, my mom died, my dad moved in and then he passed away at 91. Dad traveled, including to see my three siblings, and had a girlfriend. Three years ago, my motherin-law, who is in the begin-

ning stages of Alzheimer's, moved in. My husband is an only child and has no

and has no other family nearby. A couple of years ago, our sons, both of whom are in their 30s and had been in the Air Force, moved in. They have steady jobs and contribute to the household. One just bought a house.

My problem is with my husband. Because his mother can't be left alone, we rarely go anywhere anymore. And even when we are out, he's glued to his phone. They don't have a strong relationship and rarely speak to each other. When I try to talk to him about it, his answer is, "I promised I'd never put her in a nursing home," and, "Honor thy mother and father."

We have been to counseling. It didn't help. We are in our mid-60s and in good shape. I would like to travel before we won't be able to anymore. His mother is almost 90 and has no other health problems, so she could live five or six more years. I feel he should put her in assisted living so we can get on with our lives again. I'm tired of taking care of others, and I want to "retire," too. Am I selfish for feeling this way? How do others deal with this?

— HOW MUCH LONGER?
DEAR HOW: I have mixed feelings about your letter.
Considering that your father

moved in with you and your husband until his death, yes, I think your attitude is selfish. That said, Alzheimer's patients need constant supervision, and it is possible that in the right kind of assisted living situation, your motherin-law could be doing better

than she is.
Social stimulation is important, and the activities that are provided

could be good for her. The Alzheimer's Association is a trusted source of information, and you and your husband should be getting help from it. Find it online at alz.org. The toll-free phone number is 800-272-3900.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter is marrying someone of a different faith. She doesn't want to invite my husband's first cousin and her spouse to her wedding. The spouse is openly racist, anti-Semitic and homophobic, and the cousin doesn't contradict him.

My daughter is inviting people of different faiths, ethnicities and sexual orientations. She does not want to share her wedding day with someone who is filled with hate for her other guests and for her fiance. Although we don't socialize with this cousin and her spouse, my husband believes "family is family" and they should be invited. What is your opinion?

— ON MY DAUGHTER'S SIDE

DEAR O.M.D.S.: I disagree with your husband. Because someone is a relative does not require the individual to be invited to every family function, particularly when your branch of the family doesn't

socialize with them otherwise. However, if your husband still insists they receive an invitation, he should follow up the invitation with a phone call detailing what will be expected of guests regarding civility and decorum.

DEAR ABBY: My wife of 36 years has never introduced me to a restaurant, bought concert tickets or planned a vacation. She seldom suggests movies she wants to see or introduces me to any form of music. She claps her hands like a little girl when I say we are going out for ice cream, a walk or to a festival.

I have encouraged her repeatedly over the years to be a more active participant in our relationship and to be my partner. Nothing changes. If not for my encouragement, she would have never gotten her degree, gone to concerts or on vacations or experienced life. I plan everything. To her credit,

she's willing to go anywhere and do almost anything, but I'm increasingly resentful that my wife acts more like a daughter than a partner. I have been trying desperately for years to accept this, but I'm sick of it.

-TIRED OF IT IN OHIO DEAR TIRED: Your wife appears to be a follower rather than a leader. You should have raised this issue a long time ago and included her when you were planning outings. Because the status quo is no longer working for you, you must tell her exactly what you have put in your letter. And while you are at it, show her HOW to do the research so she can suggest things to do, and things may improve. But do not blame her entirely because some of it may rest with you.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are arguing about what college our son, "Wyatt," should go to next year. I think it should be our son's decision to choose the college with the degree program he wants. My husband disagrees. He wants our son to leave the nest, explore the world and become more independent. My husband says Wyatt is a "mama's boy" and too reliant on me.

Wyatt wants to go to our local university, which offers the degree program he wants. He said: "I can go to the local school. You and Dad won't have to pay room and board or out-of-state tuition, and I can keep my job and help pay for groceries or help with tuition."

For some reason, that statement means nothing to my husband. He wants Wyatt out of the house. Should I let my husband duke it out with our son because I have already stated my opinion more than once, or keep arguing that Wyatt should pick the college? This whole thing is stressing our son out because he wants to please his father, and I'm tired of my husband coming down on me for how I raised our son.

on.

— CHALLENGED IN

NEW MEXICO

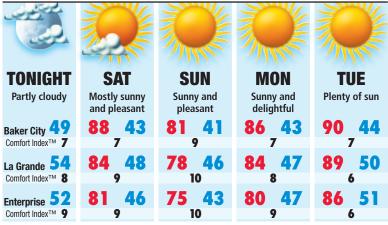
DEAR CHALLENGED: I have to wonder if there is some other issue going on between your husband and your son that you didn't mention. Wyatt appears to be thinking logically. He's working and has offered to contribute to the household expenses. Many parents would be thrilled their son chose a school nearby. That your husband would label your son a "mama's boy" and toss him out of the house is not helpful; it is hostile. Criticizing you for the way Wyatt has been raised is a

cheap shot.

Before making up your mind, talk to Wyatt's guidance counselor at school. If the person knows your son, it could prove helpful to hear his or her perspective.



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Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

77% of capacity

60% of capacity

48% of capacity

ALMANAC

Owvhee Reservoir

Powder River near Richland

McKay Reservoir

Wallowa Lake

ALIVIANAU							
TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgi				
High Wednesday	89°	89°	91				
Low Wednesday	56°	60°	54				
PRECIPITATION (inches)							
Wednesday	Trace	0.01	0.0				
Month to date	0.21	0.48	0.3				
Normal month to dat	te 0.46	0.57	0.4				
Year to date	6.29	11.29	20.7				
Normal year to date	6.82	10.59	14.7				

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY

Lowest relative humidity 25%
Afternoon wind WNW at 7 to 14 mph
Hours of sunshine 10.7

Evapotranspiration 0.23

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Thursday)

Phillips Reservoir 35% of capacity
Unity Reservoir 45% of capacity

Thief Valley Reservoir 29% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Wednesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy 583 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder 86 cfs
Burnt River near Unity 110 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon 40 cfs
Minam River at Minam 106 cfs

WED EXTREMES

WED. EXIN	EIVIE3			
NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)				
High: 117°	Thermal, Calif.			
Low: 31°	Bridgeport, Calif.			
Wettest: 3.56"	Baton Rouge, La.			
OREGON				
High: 101°	Ontario			
Low: 42°	Lakeview			
Wettest: 0.61"	Sexton Summit			

WEATHER HISTORY

Hurricane Andrew wreaked havoc from south of Coral Gables to the northern tip of Key Largo on Aug. 23, 1992. A wind gust of 164 mph was recorded at the National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables.

SUN & MOON

Sunrise

Sunset	7	':47 p.m.	7:45 p.m.	
Moonrise		:54 p.m.	none	
Moonset	2:06 p.m.		3:12 p.m.	
MOON PHASES				
Last	New	First	Full	
LdSt	new	LIIZE	ruii	

Aug 23 Aug 30 Sep 5 Sep 13

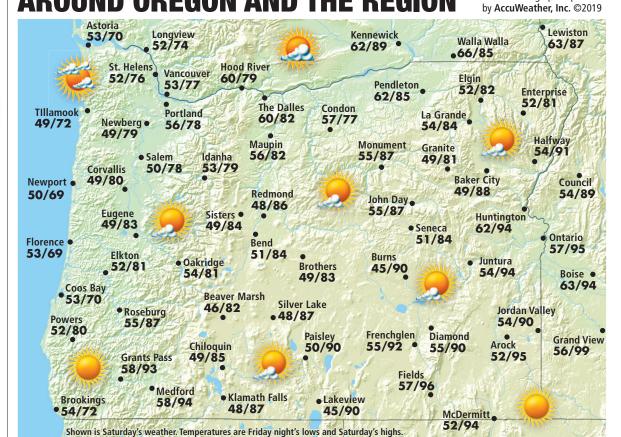
SAT.

6:03 a.m. 6:04 a.m.

ROUND ORECON AND THE RECION

SAT.

Forecasts and graphics provided



REGIONAL CITIES

SAT.

City	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	City	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/		
Astoria	70/55/pc	69/55/pc	Lewiston	87/59/pc	83/57		
Bend	84/46/s	82/46/s	Longview	74/54/pc	76/52/		
Boise	94/58/s	84/54/s	Meacham	79/45/s	75/41		
Brookings	72/54/s	76/59/s	Medford	94/56/s	93/57		
Burns	90/44/pc	84/41/s	Newport	69/51/pc	67/52/		
Coos Bay	70/55/s	69/55/s	Olympia	75/50/pc	76/49/		
Corvallis	80/50/s	80/52/s	Ontario	95/60/s	88/54		
Council	89/50/pc	83/48/s	Pasco	89/57/s	85/53		
Elgin	82/48/s	77/48/s	Pendleton	85/56/s	82/52		
Eugene	83/52/s	82/53/s	Portland	78/57/pc	78/56/		
Hermiston	88/59/s	85/52/s	Powers	80/54/s	81/53		
Hood River	79/58/s	79/54/s	Redmond	86/44/s	84/44		
Imnaha	87/53/pc	82/50/s	Roseburg	87/58/s	85/57		
John Day	87/50/s	81/50/s	Salem	78/53/s	79/54		
Joseph	83/44/pc	76/44/s	Spokane	81/54/s	78/54		
Kennewick	89/59/s	86/52/s	The Dalles	82/58/s	81/56		
Klamath Falls	87/45/s	87/47/s	Ukiah	80/43/s	75/41		
Lakeview	90/44/s	86/46/s	Walla Walla	85/59/s	83/57		
Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain,							

 $\label{eq:weather} \textbf{Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice$

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY **ANTHONY LAKES PHILLIPS LAKE** SUN. /W Partly sunny Mostly sunny 7/s **60** 83 /pc 1/s MT. EMILY REC. **BROWNLEE RES.** Mostly sunny Mostly sunny 4/s EAGLE CAP WILD. **EMIGRANT ST. PARK** Partly sunny Sunshine and nice 37 40 3/s 4/s **WALLOWA LAKE MCKAY RESERVOIR** 7/s Partly sunny; nice Sunshine and nice 4/s 54 83 THIEF VALLEY RES. **RED BRIDGE ST. PARK** 1/s Lots of sun; nice Partly sunny



24 cfs

