



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **REHABILITATION AND HEALTH CARE CENTER RESIDENT REUNITED WITH SON AFTER 8 YEARS**

Chicago, Ill. (October 15, 2008) – Alden Lincoln Park Rehabilitation and Health Care Center recently helped reunite a resident with her son after eight years of separation.

Joanne Flocca, 88, could not find the words to express her happiness and gratitude when she was finally able to hug and kiss her son Sammy, who lives thousands of miles away in Long Beach, Calif.

“I cried when I saw Sammy,” says Joanne, “I was so happy to see him.”

The reunion was made possible through Alden Lincoln Park Rehabilitation and Health Care Center’s “Wishing Well” program, which was recently established to grant the wishes of its residents. The reunion is the first wish that Alden Lincoln Park has helped to make come true. After Joanne’s daughter, Patty, learned from the staff at Alden Lincoln Park that her mom’s wish was to “see her son” she contacted her brother Sammy and sister Carole Lambert. Together, the three siblings surprised their mother for her 88<sup>th</sup> birthday by arranging for Sammy to come to Chicago. The family enjoyed celebrating their mom’s birthday together at a party arranged by Alden Lincoln Park. It was the first time that Joanne had seen her son since Thanksgiving 2000.

“Watching Joanne be reunited with her son was the most beautiful thing that I have ever experienced,” says Carrie Groulx, Administrator, Alden Lincoln Park Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. “The reunion inspired the staff and me to help make dreams like this come true for all of our residents.”

Photo 1  
Alden Lincoln Park Rehabilitation and Health Care Center’s Joanne Flocca, 88, is reunited with her son Sammy Flocca.



Photo 2  
Joanne Flocca, center, is pictured with, left, her great-grandson James Turner; daughter Carole Lambert; grandson Dan Lambert; grandson David Lambert; daughter Patty Flocca; son Sammy Flocca; and granddaughter Mary Flocca.

Alden Lincoln Park Rehabilitation and Health Care Center is located at 504 W. Wellington Ave. in Chicago.

*Alden Lincoln Park Rehabilitation and Health Care Center offers programs that address the needs of short-term therapy and rehabilitation patients as well as long-term residents.*

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