

Jewelry, China and Clothes, Oh, My!

They were a loving couple in their late 80's. A devoted husband, he had been caring for his frail wife at home. Then he had a stroke and everything changed.

Suddenly they were looking at a move.

Since this was a second marriage for both of them, their house was full of "stuff" – from their 36 years together as well as their lives before that. They never had to get rid of anything. Until now.

It was an overwhelming task.

Decisions, Decisions

Their son did not live in the city, and their daughter had her own health issues and was unable to physically take on the move.

She looked into traditional moving companies. Some would pack, but none would sort or organize her parents' precious belongings. She worried that anything they didn't move would be thoughtlessly discarded.

That's when she called our senior move specialists at All the Right Moves.

There were lots of decisions to be made, and quickly.

As a Certified Senior Advisor and Professional Organizer, I offered information and support, and the couple decided to leave their beloved community and move to a retirement home close to their daughter.

Jewelry, China and Clothes, Oh, My!

There were five rooms worth of furniture, collectibles, jewelry, china, vintage clothing and records. Apart from some figurines (many of which moved with them), none of it was particularly valuable, at least not financially.

I assured them I had a huge network of charities, boutique second-hand stores, auction houses and other specialty markets for virtually everything they had.

Eventually, all of the "stuff" landed in appreciative hands. They were especially grateful that we donated items to local charities in the community they loved.

Still Too Much Stuff

I wasn't sure how everything they insisted on keeping was going to fit in the new space. I simply won't budge when it comes to setting up a clutter-free and hazard-free living space, for my clients' safety.

However, I knew from experience that things always work out, one way or another.

This time, there was a wonderful "find." I was at a sale with some of their other things, when I spotted a corner cupboard that was the perfect display unit for their collectibles.

The Big Reveal

After almost a month of sorting and packing, we were ready for the move.

It was a full day of hard work, but my crew refused to leave when we were done. They never miss their favourite part of the day, the big "reveal."

When the couple arrived, their familiar belongings were organized and beautifully laid out. Their own linens were on the bed, and the room was warm and bright with lighting and comforting music.

Big grateful smiles, plenty of tears (moving crew included!), warm hugs and heartfelt words of appreciation filled the room. After so many difficult and emotional decisions, it was a great relief to finally be home. Another successful move.

"Gail, I'm so grateful for what you did for my parents and me."