



**Retired  
Senior  
Volunteer  
Program**

**RSVP of Central Oklahoma**  
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### **Midwest City Centenarian Loves Independence**

MIDWEST CITY, Okla. -- When Charlotte Hiel turned 100 this past January, friends and family threw her a birthday party complete with gold and blue balloons, cards, and beautiful bouquets of flowers. One of her great granddaughters asked her if she had known George Washington or Abraham Lincoln when she was a little girl.

"I told her that I didn't know them, but I had read about them in the history books, too," the Midwest City resident smiles as she shares the story.

With the help of family, a grandson who lives with her, and daughter and niece who regularly check in on her, as well as the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Central Oklahoma Provide-A-Ride free medical transportation service, Charlotte remains proudly independent in a home where she has lived for 60 years.

"I have really appreciated the Provide-A-Ride program and what it has done for me," she said. "It helps me out and it helps out my family, too, when they are unable to take me to a doctor's appointment. I have peace of mind knowing I can get to my doctor appointment and someone will stay with me."

Charlotte points to framed pictures of family on her paneled walls, paneling that she and her late husband put up when they bought the home six decades ago.

"My family is my treasure," she said. "We are a family of doers, a hard-working family."

Not one to sit still, Charlotte uses a walker to steady herself as she moves throughout her home and waters her flowers and mops and waxes her floors on occasion.

"I'm thinking about getting a housekeeper one of these days," she said. "The hardest part about getting old is not doing the things I like to do. I'd like to still do quilting; I have five quilts I'm trying to finish for my grandkids, but I take each day as it comes. I've learned to ask God only for what he wants me to do and not for what I want but what I need."

To learn more about RSVP's Provide-A-Ride program, call Faye Beam at 405-605-3110 or visit [www.rsvpokc.org](http://www.rsvpokc.org).

**About RSVP of Central Oklahoma:**

Since 1973, RSVP of Central Oklahoma has helped senior adults continue to live with purpose and meaning by connecting them with rewarding community volunteer opportunities, including RSVP's Provide-A-Ride Senior Transportation Program. RSVP is a partner of Senior Corps and the United Way of Central Oklahoma. To learn more about becoming a volunteer, call Laura McPheeters at 405.605.3110 or visit [rsvpokc.org](http://rsvpokc.org). You can also follow RSVP on Facebook at [facebook.com/RSVPokc](https://facebook.com/RSVPokc).