

# Elder Law is ... Longevity Planning

When your family is facing the rigors  
of a long-term illness, you don't  
have to do it alone.

Nancy Nawrocki, Attorney at Law



## Diagnosis: Parkinson's

Elder Law is **Parkinson's** Planning

Parkinson's disease is a progressive disorder that affects nerve cells in the part of the brain controlling muscle movement. People often experience trembling, muscle rigidity, difficulty walking, problems with balance and slowed movements. These symptoms usually develop after age 60.

Until there is a cure for Parkinson's, people with the disease will need caregiving and legal advice. Parkinson's disease presents special problems because it can cause chemical changes in your brain that make you feel anxious or depressed. Strong professional relationships are crucial in helping to cope with the burdens of this disease.

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## Diagnosis: Alzheimer's

Elder Law is **Alzheimer's** Planning

The average survival rate is eight years after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's, but some people live as few as three years after diagnosis, while others live as long as 20 years.

Most people with Alzheimer's don't die of the disease itself, but of pneumonia, a urinary tract infection or complications from a fall.

Until there's a cure for Alzheimer's, people with the disease will need caregiving and legal advice. According to the Alzheimer's Association, approximately one in 10 families has a relative with Alzheimer's disease. Of the 4 million people with Alzheimer's disease in the United States, the majority live at home — often receiving part- or full-time care from family members.

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## Elder Law is Planning For VA Benefits

Many veterans who served during World War II and Korea need help today to pay for home healthcare and/or assisted living facility costs.

They may qualify for a Special Monthly pension benefit for those who are housebound or in need of full-time aid and attendance. Veteran couples may qualify for up to \$1,842 a month; Survivor Spouses up to \$999 a month.

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**NAWROCKI CENTER**  
For Elder & Family Law, PLLC

10299 Grand River, Suite N, Brighton, MI 48116  
Toll Free: 866-923-8337 Tel: 810-229-0220 Fax: 810-229-0696  
Email: [nawrockilaw@nawrockilaw.com](mailto:nawrockilaw@nawrockilaw.com)