



GARY & BARBARA BROWN

SOVEREIGN VILLAGE RESIDENTS



Our Move to Sovereign Village:

My wife, Barbara, and I loved our home, but decided the upkeep along with its layout (two floors, basement, and considerable stairs) was getting too much for us. Additionally, we travel quite a bit, and winter in Florida. We decided to start a new chapter in our lives and went looking for a place that would feel like home, offer a single floor layout, and significantly reduce our upkeep. We still lead active lives, so we were also looking for a place providing a wide range of amenities and services.

Our search proved disappointing until we happened upon Sovereign Village. I was visiting with a friend who was familiar with the village as his father had been a resident in the assisted living facility on site. He knew of our search for an active senior retirement community and that Sovereign Village was expanding. Although still under construction, I was immediately impressed by the obvious quality of the facilities. The Community Relations manager, Sarah Dixon, met with us and presented their plans, various housing options and quickly contacted one of the residents to arrange a villa tour. Her knowledge and obviously great relationship with the residents underscored the quality of the organization. The next day I brought Barbara back to meet with Sarah, look at the facilities, and tour a villa. Barb was equally impressed by Sarah, and everything we saw during our visit. Discussing our observations during our drive home, we both sensed this was the right move for us.

Our decision was made easy after speaking with Paul Gross, the owner of Sovereign Village. He was honestly open to requests from us regarding options on our new villa and clearly wanted us to be completely delighted with our new home. From the beautiful exterior to the quality internal fittings, the homes are of superior quality to anything else we had seen.

Moving to Sovereign Village was the best decision we've made in years. The process of significant downsizing can be traumatic. My suggestion is to create a scale drawing of each room and place scale cutouts of all the furniture you would like to keep, paying close attention to clearances for doors and windows. Deciding what to keep and what to purge may not be easy, however, it became therapeutic after reevaluating all our accumulated things and reassessing what we really valued.

Because we still travel extensively, the 'lock up and leave' nature of our villa allows us to continue to enjoy travelling and, while away, we are confident our property is secured, monitored, and maintained.

The gym, pool, indoor pickleball court, clubhouse, and facilities are second to none with activities for everyone. Additionally, Sovereign Village is only a couple of miles from trailhead access to hundreds of miles of paved bike trails. With most of our home maintenance taken care of, we now have much more time to enjoy our lives.

One other important consideration is that Sovereign Village removes considerable future unknowns by offering an aging friendly community. We can continue to live here for the rest of our lives without worrying about what happens if our health needs change.

Although we have only lived here for a few months, a couple of events stand out illustrating the value Sovereign Village places on community life. On completion of our beautiful, covered bridge, the staff organized a formal dedication dinner. Tables were set up on the bridge, and a great meal was served. After Paul returned from his fishing trip to Alaska, he generously donated his hard-won catch to the facility chef who prepared a marvelous dinner for the village residents.

We were nervous about leaving our home where I had spent years making it just right, but from the moment we arrived we felt welcomed and our new home is extremely comfortable. Our decision to downsize to Sovereign Village has been a perfect one for us. The staff is available to help with whatever our needs may be. Such a major change in our lives would not have been possible without the very generous assistance of the fantastic staff. They know us by name and our neighbors have become friends. We cannot believe how lucky we are to be a part of this great community and look forward to many happy years enjoying our new home.

Gary and Barbara Brown



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