

# Time to *Move*?

By Chris Iverson

**Moving is always hard, especially if you have been in your home for a long time, raised a family and have a house full of memories.**

Unfortunately, I meet many sellers who stay in their homes beyond when it is safe for them. This is a story about a couple who paid attention to the signs and didn't wait too long.

Roger and Margaret in their 80s had lived in their Woodside home for 40 years. They raised their family there. Roger was a pastor at the local church and they were involved in the community in many ways. They couldn't imagine living anywhere else and thought they would stay in their home until the end of their days.

Then one day Margaret tripped in the garden, hurting her knee.

"When one gets older, one gets warning signs and it was a warning sign," said Margaret. They quickly realized that to "stay in place" was a fantasy. Their home needed repairs and was no longer comfortable. And their two adult sons were far away in Napa and Redding.

It was time to move.

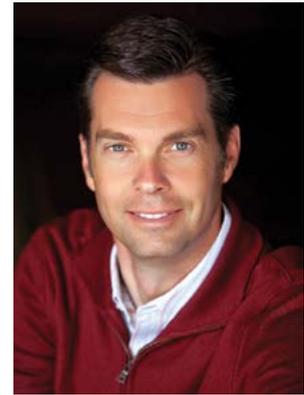
**Problem:** years of "stuff," timing and finances.

"I wouldn't say that I'm a hoarder. Let's say I'm a collector and I had accumulated quite a bit of material. We had rooms full of stuff and something had to be done with it all.

"One of our biggest challenges and I couldn't imagine how it could be done, was to somehow get rid of things," said Roger.

Soon after Margaret's accident, they came across the perfect apartment in a retirement community in Napa. But they had to move quickly to get it and they needed to sell their Woodside home to finance the move.

They were referred to Chris by a friend and he was able to coordinate their entire transition from their longtime home to their new place near their son.



## Advice for other seniors

"If I had to give advice to others in our situation, I would tell them to move now. Even though moving was difficult, it would have been so much worse if there was just one of us or if one of us was disabled," said Margaret. "The people most grateful are our two sons who are so appreciative that we made the move ourselves instead of leaving it up to them."

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*Thinking of moving? For more information, contact Chris Iverson of Dreyfus Sotheby's International Realty. 650.450.0450 | Chris.Iverson@SothebysRealty.com | ChrisIverson.info.*

