



## 2009 Hero Awards Nomination Form

*Honor the hard-working employees and volunteers who help make your assisted living residents' lives more rewarding. Nominate someone you know for ALFA's 12th annual Hero Awards!*

Nominee Jerry Garrett

Award Category (check one):  Executive Director  Staff Member  Caregiver  Nurse  Volunteer

Nominee's Title Maintenance Partner Length of Service 17 months

Name of Community Maguolia Court Type of Community Assisted living + Memory Care

Person Nominating Resencia Pryor Title Executive Director

Name of Organization Signature Senior Living Phone 936-569-6227

Email rpryor@SignatureSeniorLiving.com Website www.SignatureSeniorLiving.com

**Each community is limited to maximum of one nominee per category. Community/Parent Company must be a member of ALFA to be eligible to submit a nomination.**

Nominees should be exemplary in promoting ALFA's philosophy of care and service:

- ◆ Offering cost-effective quality care that is personalized for the individual's needs
- ◆ Involving family and friends in care, when appropriate
- ◆ Protecting each resident's right to privacy
- ◆ Promoting the individuality of each resident
- ◆ Fostering independence for each resident
- ◆ Providing a safe, residential environment
- ◆ Nurturing the spirit of each resident
- ◆ Allowing each resident choice of care and lifestyle
- ◆ Treating each resident with dignity and respect in care planning and implementation
- ◆ Making the assisted living residence a valuable community asset

On a one page (8½ x 11), one-side **typed** (no less than 12 point font) document, please provide specific examples of why you are nominating this employee or volunteer. Winners will be awarded during ALFA's 2009 National Conference & EXPO, May 5-7, 2009 in Philadelphia, PA, where they will receive a complimentary conference registration & lodging for one night, a trophy, and a monetary award.

**Please email, fax or mail this form and its accompanying nomination letter by February 13, 2009**, to ALFA, attention: Nikki Crevey, 1650 King Street, Suite 602, Alexandria, VA 22314; email [ncrevey@alfa.org](mailto:ncrevey@alfa.org); or fax to (703) 894-1831, or call (703) 562-1176 for more information.

February 10, 2009

Nikki Crevey  
1650 King Street, Suite 602  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Ms. Crevey:

I would like to nominate Jerry Garrett, Maintenance Partner at Magnolia Court Assisted Living and Memory Care, for the 2009 ALFA Hero Award.

Jerry is one of the hardest working employees in our community and has the most physically demanding job. Not only does he keep all of our electrical, plumbing, communication, heating & cooling, cleaning, safety, and outdoor systems functioning, he is also faced with the daily requests of a large population of elderly residents and busy Employee Partners. And, in a community where memory impairment is the norm, these requests are frequently repeated multiple times, even though the task has been completed! Not only is Jerry skilled and efficient at the maintenance aspects of his job, he has a bottomless reservoir of patience, compassion and empathy for the people who live here. They need him, they depend on him, and they love him.

Magnolia Court is a beautiful community and stays that way largely because of Jerry. He cares deeply about the building and grounds and works diligently to keep everything as perfect as he can make it. Visitors always comment on the décor and the ambience here: Jerry strives constantly to make sure this lovely environment stays as attractive as it was on the day we opened!

No matter which task he is facing, Jerry stays until the job is done. I have seen him put in late hours to finish a project which, left uncompleted, could impair the comfort and or safety of our residents. Not only does he carry out his assigned duties skillfully and efficiently, he pitches in elsewhere whenever needed. He has served dinner, helped with activities, driven residents to appointments, and always wins a prize in the Halloween costume contest! Jerry's calm and dependable demeanor has helped defuse many a potentially escalating resident meltdown.

Jerry's greatest challenges (that I have observed over the past seven months I have known him) occurred with the two recent hurricane threats to our community. Not only did we experience wind damage, power outages, and equipment malfunction, we also took in several evacuees from another elder care community. We all stayed and worked many long hours, but Jerry had the responsibility for bringing in extra beds, helping transfer our evacuee guests, dealing with all the outages and equipment issues, not to mention the cleanup inside and outside afterward.

I know there must be many more stories about Jerry's hard work and extra effort that occurred before I joined Magnolia Court and probably even more that no one but Jerry knows about. However, regardless of whether or not Jerry receives the ALFA Hero Award, he is a hero to all of our residents and employees and always will be!

Sincerely,



Christine Hoskins  
Assistant Director



Resencia Pryor  
Executive Director