<u>Living Wills and Powers of Attorney</u> Category : Money Published by Dave Skotarczyk [Dave Skotarczyk] on 2005/6/30

With living wills and powers of attorney in the news lately, they are also on more peoples' minds. While discussing these documents may be uncomfortable for some, having legal statements in place could save unnecessary discomfort for anyone forced to make health care decisions for someone unable to do so on their own.

WHAT IS A LIVING WILL?

This document lets your family know what type of medical treatments you do or don't want to receive if you become terminally ill or permanently unconscious. It becomes effective only when you cannot express your intentions yourself.

WHAT IS A DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTHCARE?

This document appoints the person whom you want to make medical decisions on your behalf if you cannot make your own decisions. Your agent can participate in medical discussions, understand the treatment decisions, and make an informed decision according to what you intended.

Remember, proactive attention to these details is perhaps one of the most important things anyone can leave behind to the people they love.

This information is provided with the understanding that Principal Life and Princor are not providing legal advice.