

### **Tyler woman makes final payment on Habitat home**

Betty Raibon of Tyler is celebrating tonight with her family after paying off her mortgage on her Habitat home.

Raibon moved into her home on South Baxter in 2003 so her family would have a place of their own. "We saw how much we were paying in rent each month and realized that maybe we should put that towards something that would be ours," said Raibon. "I also wanted my children to have their own rooms and a safe, clean environment."

Raibon worked as a home health aide for a private company and at Trinity Mother Frances Hospital. "I had the privilege of caring for many of Tyler's citizens in their homes. Some were my clients for years as they wanted to stay in their home for the end of life."

In 2017, Raibon's husband died and her father also passed away six months later. "It's been tough to keep up with the house, but it was important to me to pay off this property after all of the sacrifices we made to be a Habitat homeowner."

Raibon's daughter is now 32 and on disability as her heart is only functioning at 23 percent. "She may need some type of care in the future." Her 27-year-old son is a hotel clerk. Now after years of caring for others, Raibon had to go on disability because of bad knees and back problems but her son is taking care of her. She says her future looks brighter now that she knows her house is paid for.

"I am so happy! I am a strong believer in God and know he is watching over my family. I thank God everyday for Habitat and being able to have the opportunity to be a homeowner."

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