



# Reunited

Their story played out like one from the pages of a movie script... Arthur Perkins, 79, said he was speechless when the sister he believed to be dead suddenly returned to his life.

Mr. Perkins said he heard from the police years ago that his sister, Susie Harris, 98, was dead. He also said he received a few letters with the same information.

The siblings had been out of touch, and Mr. Perkins said he didn't think anyone would lie to him about his sister's death. *"All I got from asking around is that she was deceased for years, but she still (lived) in me,"* he said.

But when Ms. Harris was admitted to St. Barnabas Nursing Home, on Pine Street, the same senior living facility where Mr. Perkins lives, the siblings were reunited.

Darleen Bauer, a registered nurse at St. Barnabas, said Mr. Perkins was sitting in the hallway as he usually does when Ms. Harris come off the elevator on the day of her admission.

*"He heard her name and got real excited,"* she said. *"The next thing I know, (Mr. Perkins) rolled his wheelchair in (Ms. Harris' room). I was surprised because I didn't know he had any extended family"*

Mr. Perkins said he didn't recognize his sister at first, because he expected her complexion to be lighter, but it took only 20 or 30 seconds for reality to set in.

*"I was just speechless,"* he said. *"She was a young lady when I last saw her."* Ms. Harris said she is just happy to know where her brother is, and now the two spend time together talking and sharing a love of baseball.

Ms. Harris said she feels happy that she and her brother were reunited and Mr. Perkins said he never stopped searching for his older sister. *"I was still looking,"* he said. *"But somewhere along the line, God had a hand in it."*