

Coming Home to England Oaks

Wherever life takes England Oaks resident Robbie Gill, she is sure to provide a great soundtrack. Originally from Germany, Robbie grew up in a musical family where she learned to sing, play piano, recorder and the accordion. After college, she and her brother formed a band that toured Europe. When she moved to the US in 1982, she performed in a country music show: "Super Country USA" in Alexandria.



She's lived all over the country, but when she decided to retire, it was Alexandria that called her home. Her daughter Nadja, who works as the sales director for England Oaks Adult Living Community, knew just the place for her, "She really wanted a place that would provide maintenance, so she'd be free to live her life. England Oaks was perfect."

"I love it here," Robbie says, "The grounds are just beautiful and everyone is really social."

Nowadays, Robbie brings her passion for performing to England Oaks where she has revamped the monthly talent show, which now includes Karaoke, a Hee Haw-inspired variety show, and special themed performances for the holidays.

But the best part about England Oaks? Meeting Don, her now-husband, at the community's weekly Bible study. They had their wedding at the England Oaks community center. "They weren't the first," laughs Nadja. Robbie and Ron are one of four couples who have exchanged vows over the last few years. It doesn't really surprise Robbie at all. "It's really easy to meet people here. It really does feel like one big extended family."

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