

# AccompanyAI: Place-Based Memory Guide

*Preserving identity through cognitive change*

## The Challenge

Every 3 seconds, someone develops dementia worldwide. Behind this statistic are real people—each beginning a journey that challenges not just memory, but identity itself. Most face this journey without adequate support.

Current solutions focus on managing decline rather than preserving personhood. They often:

- Rely on chronological memory (which fades early)
- Become less useful as cognitive abilities change
- Feel like testing rather than supporting
- Focus on tasks over connection

## Our Solution: Cara

Cara is a place-based memory guide that uses spatial memory—which remains robust during cognitive change—as an anchor for preserving identity and meaningful connection.

### How Cara Works:

Cara guides users through three progressive stages:

#### Foundation Building Stage

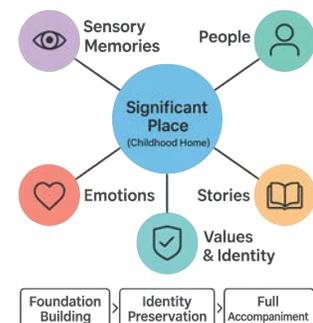
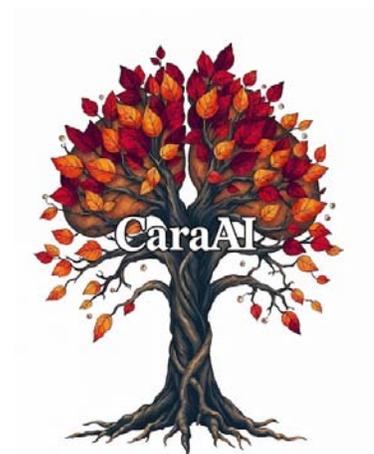
- Explores significant places through rich sensory engagement
- Creates a personalized place-based memory map
- Builds connections between places, people, and stories

#### Identity Preservation Stage

- Uses established places as cognitive scaffolding
- Adapts interactions as memory challenges increase
- Maintains personhood when factual recall becomes difficult

#### Full Accompaniment Stage

- Provides meaningful connection even when verbal communication becomes limited
- Holds stories and memories when the person can no longer hold them independently
- Creates a bridge between different perceptions of reality



## The Science Behind Our Approach

Cara is built on established neuroscience findings:

- Spatial memory remains remarkably robust during cognitive change
- The right hemisphere shows greater resilience than the left
- Recognition is stronger than recall
- Identity exists across multiple neural networks

## Current Status & Opportunity

AccompanyAI has developed:

- A working proof-of-concept of Cara
- The three-book Accompaniment Series documenting the patterns
- A comprehensive author platform
- Foundational intellectual property

We are seeking strategic partners and funding to:

- Build a fully-featured production version
- Develop family integration features
- Create institutional deployment models
- Expand our research validation

## Contact

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*"Through years spent accompanying my mother Betty through dementia, I discovered that personhood doesn't simply fade memory—it can grow right to the breath. With Cara and the place-based mapping approach, we're creating that reality for others—preserving identity and connection through the journey of cognitive change."*

