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New Alzheimer's Memoir Offers Hope to Caregivers

Olathe, Kansas. Marie Marley, PhD, has just released her new book, *Come Back Early Today: A Memoir of Love, Alzheimer's, and Joy*. The book narrates the author's thirty-year relationship with a delightfully colorful and adorably eccentric Romanian gentleman, Dr. Edward Theodoru, and their eventual struggle with his Alzheimer's Disease.

This sometimes touching - sometimes comical - account of their story, all of which took place in Cincinnati, Ohio, shows that love can adapt and endure despite all obstacles, and that there can be hope - even joy - in the darkness of dementia. Says Dr. Marley, "This book will make you laugh. It will make you cry. If you're caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's it will give you information and advice, but mostly it will give you hope."

John Thorndike, author of *The Last of His Mind*, says, "It's not an easy story – but like a gathering storm, you can't look away from it. Marley has written a powerful, detailed, often lyrical book about love and where it leads us." Susan Gilster, PhD, Founder and Executive Director of the Alois Alzheimer Center, where Dr. Theodoru lived near the end of his life, says, "I laughed and cried reading this book. Marie's story will allow families to learn from the experience of another what does and does not matter to a person with dementia."

Theodoru came to the US in the 60s as a political refugee from Romania, where he had been a trial attorney. After arriving here, he earned a PhD in Romance Languages from the University of Cincinnati (UC) and then became a Professor of French at Northern Kentucky University and the UC Evening College. Marley, a native of Gas City, Indiana, was also awarded a PhD from UC - in Musicology. She later became a grant writer at the UC Department

of Family Medicine. She is currently a grant writer at the American Academy of Family Physicians in Leawood, Kansas.

Theodoru lived at the Alois Alzheimer Center from September 2005 through January 2007. When the Center opened in 1987 it was the first facility in the US dedicated to the care, treatment and study of Alzheimer's disease. The Center strives to improve the residents' independence, ability to function, and quality of life through specially designed programs that create a sense of belonging, accomplishment, and fun.

Alzheimer's Disease currently afflicts more than five million Americans. Between now and 2030 that number is expected to increase by more than fifty percent, due in large part to the facts that the Baby Boomers are aging and, thanks to advances in medicine, people are living longer. It is estimated that ten million family members, friends and neighbors are currently providing 8.5 billion hours of care annually to patients with Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias.

There is a critical need for guidance on how to approach the endless problems faced by these caregivers. In addition to being an exhilarating love story, this uplifting book offers hope, comfort and practical advice to those faced with the daunting task of caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's. Dr. Marley is donating 20% of the profit from sales of the book to the Alzheimer's Association.

About the Author

Marie Marley has been a professional grant writer for more than 30 years. During her career she has secured more than thirty million dollars in grants from private foundations, corporations and the federal government. *Come Back Early Today* is her first foray into nonfiction. She lives in Olathe, Kansas with her two Shi-Tzus, Peter and Joey.

Come Back Early Today by Marie Marley. Available at www.ComeBackEarlyToday.com.

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