

MARIE MARLEY, PhD

Speaker, Award-Winning Author
Former Alzheimer's Caregiver

913.633.9080 | Marie@comebackearlytoday.com



RÉSUMÉ

updated 6/07/2013

Personal Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Experience

- Cared for a loved one (Dr. Edward Theodoru) with Alzheimer's from 2000 – 2007: Provided love and care throughout the entire span of his illness, from the earliest symptoms to nursing home placement and his passing seven years later.
- Interacted extensively with numerous residents at the Alzheimer's care facility where Edward lived.

Publications

- *Come Back Early Today: A Memoir of Love, Alzheimer's and Joy*. Joseph Peterson Books, 2011. (A Finalist in the Santa Fe Writer's Project Literary Awards, Eric Hoffer First Horizons Horizon Awards, and Readers Favorite Awards. In addition, two stories from the book were designated Honorable Mention in the 2012 Writers-Editors Network International Writing Competition.)
- More than 130 articles on Alzheimer's caregiving published on the Huffington Post and the Alzheimer's Reading Room.
- Regular blogger on personal website blog, www.ComeBackEarlyToday.com.

Upcoming Presentations

- Scheduled to speak at the 2013 Kansas Activity Directors Association Annual Conference. *Enriching the Lives of People with Alzheimer's*. Wichita, Kansas. 10.28.13.
- Scheduled to speak at the 2nd Central and West Alzheimer's Association Chapter Kansas Education Conference on Dementia. *Activities to Engage and Entertain Loved Ones With Alzheimer's*. Wichita, KS. 11.19.13.

Past Presentations

- Spoke to a family caregiver support group at The Sweet Life at Brookdale Place, Overland Park, Kansas. 06.06.13.
- Garden Terrace. Presentation for Family Caregivers. Overland Park, KS. 04.26.12.
- Bickford at Mission Springs. Presentation for Family Caregivers. Mission, KS. 06.28.12.

Praise for Marie's Presentation Skills

- "Marie's speaking skills are simply outstanding! Her talk at Garden Terrace, Overland Park, KS, was both engaging and moving, and it brought tears to my eyes." Beth McElyea, Community Relations Specialist, Southern Care, Inc., Lenexa, Kansas.
- "At her talk at Bickford Springs, Mission, KS, Marie had the audience sitting on the edges of their chairs. At her talk at Garden Terrace, Overland Park, KS, some people were brought to tears when she discussed her experience with beginning hospice care for her loved one with Alzheimer's." Bradley Sanchez Houston, Principal, the Houston Group.

Praise for Marie's Articles and Book

- **Excerpt from a letter Marie received from an 80-Year-Old Alzheimer's caregiver after she read Marie's Book (Ruth Kapunan of Cape Coral, FL):** "My most important reason for writing is to tell you how much I enjoyed your book. Since my husband was diagnosed [with Alzheimer's] I have read many books, taken a few courses and joined a support group. Your book was the only one that gave me hope and I thank you."
- **Comments of an actual person with Alzheimer's about one of Marie's articles published on the Alzheimer's Reading Room (Mike Donahue, 75-year-Old Retired Attorney):** "Marie's story struck every chord of my heart. From her compassion to Ed's glee, it is ever so touching. One of the strums on my hearty string is the wonderful way you Ms. Marley are able to accept the degree you haven't been able to accept it and the dedication you continue to maintain towards Ed. That, coupled with your willingness to buying and bringing Ed "The Little Yellow One" speaks loudly of your love for Ed. It also sounds out the order in which you place him, viz: number one in priority. Bless you!"

*Please Note: Mr. Donahue's language errors were not corrected.
It's obvious this was written by a person with some cognitive decline.*

- **Comment on an article published on the Alzheimer's Reading Room (Rose):** Marie, Again thank you for allowing me to be on a journey you shared. I read and reread your book and it helped me beyond belief.
- **Excerpt from a reader review on Amazon (Craig Thomas):** Once I started, there was absolutely no way to stop reading this book until its final page. The house is a mess and I don't care! Brava.

Professional Background

- Author and Speaker on Alzheimer's Caregiving. (Current)
- Medical grant writer at the American Academy of Family Physicians, Leawood, KS. 2007 – 2013
- Medical grant writer at the University of Cincinnati Department of Family Medicine. 1978 - 2007

Volunteer Experience

- Visiting with people who have dementia at Clare Bridge of Leawood, KS. (Current)

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