

MARIE MARLEY, PhD

Speaker, Award-Winning Author
& Former Alzheimer's Caregiver

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RÉSUMÉ

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.
- Currently serving as a volunteer visitor to three residents with Alzheimer's at Clare Bridge, a memory care facility that is part of Brookdale Senior Living. Overland Park, KS. 2013.

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, the Alzheimer's Reading Room and Maria Shriver. 2011 – present.
- Regular blogger on personal website blog, www.ComeBackEarlyToday.com. 2011 – present.

Presentations and Interviews

- *Presentation to Alzheimer's Family Caregivers*. Garden Terrace. Overland Park, KS. 04.26.12.
- *Presentation to Alzheimer's Family Caregivers*. Bickford at Mission Springs. Mission, KS. 06.28.12.
- *Presentation to Alzheimer's Family Caregivers*. Clare Bridge. Overland Park, Kansas. 06.06.13.
- *Presentation to Alzheimer's Family Caregivers*. Emeritus at Overland Park. Overland Park, KS. 08.06.13.
- *Radio Interview*. Senior Helpers. 08.12.13.

Presentations and Interviews Scheduled

- *Presentation to Alzheimer's Family Caregivers.* Shawnee Gardens Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. Shawnee, KS. 09.10.13.
- *Radio Interview.* Alzheimer's Speaks. 09.24.13.
- *Presentation to Alzheimer's Family Caregivers.* Church of the Resurrection. Overland Park, KS. 10.22.13.
- *Enriching the Lives of People with Alzheimer's.* (Plenary Session.) 2013 Kansas Activity Directors Association Annual Conference. Wichita, Kansas. 10.28.13.
- *My Amazing Journey on the Path Called Alzheimer's.* (Keynote Address) 2nd Central and Western Kansas Alzheimer's Association Chapter Education Conference on Dementia. Wichita, KS. 11.19.13.
- *Activities to Engage and Entertain Loved Ones With Alzheimer's.* (Breakout Session.) 2nd Central and Western Kansas Alzheimer's Association Chapter Education Conference on Dementia. Wichita, KS. 11.19.13.

Praise for Marie's Presentation Skills (Letters of Recommendation Available on Request)

- "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, KS.
- "I've seen audiences on the edge of their seats with interest and empathy during Marie's presentations. I've seen tears well up in people's eyes, even outright crying, when Marie discussed her experience in finally making the decision to begin hospice care for Ed after his long bout with Alzheimer's. It is quite moving." -Bradley Sanchez Houston, CEO, The Houseton Group, Austin, TX.

Praise for Marie's Articles and Book

- **Excerpt from a letter Marie received from an 85-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 a 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!"
- **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.
- **Reader reviews on Amazon.com** Go to Amazon.com to read the 63 reader reviews.

Professional Background

- Medical grant writer at the American Academy of Family Physicians, Leawood, KS. 2007 – 2013. (Retired)
- Medical grant writer at the University of Cincinnati Department of Family Medicine, Cincinnati, OH. 1978 – 2007.