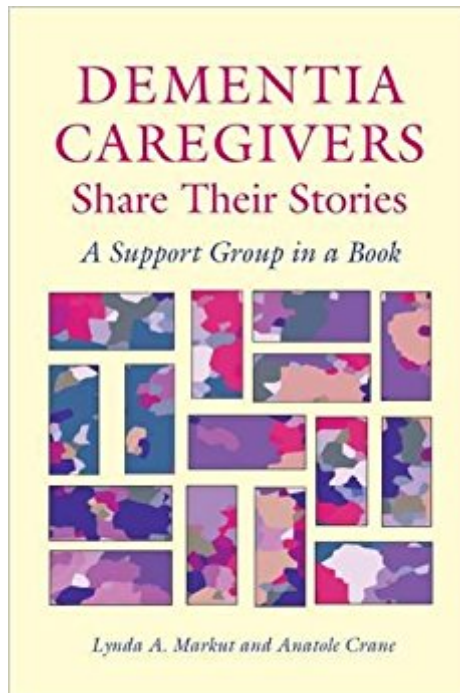




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# Dementia Caregivers Share Their Stories: A Support Group In A Book



## Synopsis

Replete with the powerful words of experienced caregivers, *Dementia Caregivers Share Their Stories* is an essential guidebook for anyone who must attend to the needs of a loved one suffering from Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia. In these pages, members of caregivers' support groups - representing twenty-six families and a variety of professions and income levels - speak candidly about the challenges they have faced at every step in the caregiving process, from recognizing early symptoms of dementia to dealing with its advanced stages. Highlighting the ingenuity and resourcefulness of caregivers, the book brims with inspirational stories, practical advice, and creative approaches to problem-solving. Among the issues addressed are: Becoming a caregiver, whether for a spouse or parent; Dealing with the personality changes caused by dementia, from anxiety and paranoia to hallucinations and impulsive behavior; Keeping dementia sufferers meaningfully involved in life; Handling the emotions and stresses of caregiving; Seeking help through support groups and other sources, including medical professionals, clergy, and other family members. The authors, who have both been caregivers themselves, augment their interviewees' stories with connective commentary and their own personal stories. A useful resource section is included to refer readers to associations and help-lines.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

...an excellent addition to the resources available for students, professionals and family members...

--Kathryn Betts Adams, PhD, LISW, *Families in Society* By drawing upon the words of caregivers

who have walked the journey of dementia, the authors cast much needed light upon this long and winding road. Through the experience of caring for loved ones, these unsung heroes have made the path less difficult for others who will follow in their footsteps.--Daniel Kuhn, MSW, Director of Education, Mather LifeWays Institute on AgingMarkut and Crane have brought to light the stories of family members and friends who have cared for their loved ones suffering from dementia. These stories teach what is possible, and remind us that we are not alone - a wonderful and vital contribution to an aging society.--Jim MayThis book is needed by every family member that has a relative suffering from any of the dementia causing diseases.--Diana Pederson, Metapsychology Online Reviews

"By drawing upon the words of caregivers who have walked the journey of dementia, the authors cast much needed light upon this long and winding road. Through the experience of caring for loved ones, these unsung heroes have made the path less difficult for others who will follow in their footsteps." - Daniel Kuhn, MSW, Director of Education, Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging "Markut and Crane have brought to light the stories of family members and friends who have cared for their loved ones suffering from dementia. These stories teach what is possible, and remind us that we are not alone - a wonderful and vital contribution to an aging society." Jim May --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

To be clear, I have not read this book. I sent it to my 84 year old father who is the caretaker for my mother who has dementia based on what other reviewers said about the book on 's website. (I also sent "The 36-Hour Day" which my father's doctor had previously given to him. My father found it to be very helpful, but he had misplaced his copy and very much wanted to re-read it.) I received a thank you note from my father today. It read, "Thank you! Thank you! for the wonderful books you sent me. The book on sharing stories of caregivers is tremendous. It does make me have tears in my eyes for I am experiencing many of the things that they have experienced. It is a very thoughtful gift. THANK YOU! (underlined)" Since I live 1,200 miles from my parents and my siblings also live far away, it is difficult for us to provide the support that I know that my father needs being my mother's caretaker. My parents don't live in a community that has a lot of supportive resources for dealing with dementia. It brought tears to my eyes hearing how much this book is providing support to my father. P.S. It is always very hard to buy gifts for my father, but he said he considered this book his Christmas gift.

I read this book while helping my father care for my mother who has Alzheimer's disease. I appreciated the different perspectives provided. Instead of hearing the story of one caregiver of one Alzheimer's victim, you read comments from a range of people. It is well-written and accessible, even when your brain is overloaded from spending the day with a person whose reality has been horribly altered by dementia. After I finished the book, I lent it to my dad. Once he was done with it, I gave it to a friend to send to his father who is an Alzheimer's caregiver with few resources and no access to support groups.

I am a caregiver to my 90yr old blind mother who suffers from vascular dementia as well. This book was written by other caregivers with information , questions and answers that can only be appreciated by those who care with someone with this type of illness. The book covers many types of dementia, whether it be Alzheimers, vascular or others. What is really important is that the book encourages the caregiver to take care of themselves if they are to be able to take care of their patient.

Oh my gosh, I learned so much, just a Wonderful book , to help..

I bought this as a gift for my mother, who takes care of my nana with dementia. It brought her to tears reading all of the different stories. It has so many different passages that are so relatable for people who have a family member with dementia. I think it will be a great source of support for my mother and her sisters.

I am a practicing neuropsychologist who frequently works with families who are coping with dementia in their loved ones. This is the best book I've read on caregiving for a loved one with dementia to date. It has a great deal of helpful information about the daily experiences of caring for a loved one with dementia. More importantly, however, it sensitively addresses many of the deeply emotional issues that arise in most situations. For this reason, I bought my mom a copy for her use in coping with my dad's dementing illness and will be recommending this book to my patients as well.

This book was just what I was looking for. Having my husband diagnosed with dementia 6 months ago I have been reading all I can on the subject. This book was great.

Outstanding descriptive book by excellent writers.

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