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Alzheimer's: Dealing with Difficult Behavior • November 10, 2016 • Issue #964

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

Caregiver Media Notes

As I travel the nation hosting the Fearless Caregiver Conferences over the past 21 years, I have learned about so many terrific campaigns designed to support family caregivers. I look forward to sharing the work of these caregiving advocates in this column on a regular basis. [...more](#)

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FEATURED ARTICLE

Alzheimer's: Dealing with Difficult Behavior

By J B Buckley

As if it weren't enough to deal with forgetfulness and confusion while caring for your loved-one with Alzheimer's, but aggressiveness, wandering and paranoia can really put you over the edge. Managing your loved-one's difficult behavior is your true testament of love and devotion. You know it isn't their fault, it is their disease that is making them scream, cry or yell terrible things out at you. Who ever said patience is a virtue, didn't care for a loved-one with Alzheimer's or dementia. Perhaps a caregiver's only defense is to understand how to react to difficult behaviors and be ready for them. [...more](#)

GUEST ARTICLE

Design Tips for Living at Home Longer

By Elaine Turner

Every senior wants to remain independent in his or her own home as long as possible. There are four basic elements needed to accomplish this goal: accessibility adaptations, furniture design, color scheme and sensory accessories. When people feel content in their home environment, they will perform at their highest level, be more receptive to any educational and therapeutic interventions necessary, and will be more manageable for caregivers. These tips come from 33 years experience raising a son with autism and 25 years experience with my husband who had Parkinson's disease. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

Advice for the ALS Caregiver

By Jennifer Bradley, Staff Writer

Cynthia Knoche is the director of Chapter Care Services for the ALS Association. She says caregivers face both emotional and physical challenges when caring for a loved one who has been diagnosed with an illness with no significant treatment or cure. "It can be devastating for the person diagnosed and their loved ones; however, many tools, techniques and therapies are available to maintain quality of life," Knoche says. [...more](#)

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CAREVERSES

I Thought We'd Have Forever

By Michelle Andrea Bracken

I thought we'd have forever
To sit when day was done
To catch the gentle breeze that blows
Before the setting sun.

I thought we'd have forever
Forever and a day
To watch our little grandchildren
So busy at their play.

I thought we'd have forever
And maybe one day more
To contemplate and ruminate
On what life had in store.

I thought we'd have forever
To hold each other's hands

To sit and rock a while and talk
Still making future plans.

I thought we'd have forever
But it was not to be
For now that evil thief called "stroke"
Is stealing you from me.

Enjoy more caregiver poems
or share one of your own

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