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**The Power of Two Kisses** • February 10, 2015 • Issue #788

## RETRO MAGAZINE

A look back at 20 years of *Today's Caregiver* magazine

**May/June 2013**

### An Interview with Amy Grant

*Amy Grant's career spans over 25 years and stretches from her roots in gospel to an iconic pop star, songwriter, television personality and philanthropist. She has sold over 30 million albums, won 6 Grammys, has six #1 hits, including "Baby, Baby" and "Every Heartbeat," and is one of only 2 Christian artists to be awarded a star on the legendary Hollywood Walk of Fame. Amy Grant is also a wife, mother, sister and daughter who joined with her family to create a loving framework to care for her parents living with dementia. Editor-in-Chief, Gary Barg sat down with Amy for a wide-ranging interview tracing her journey as a partner in care with her sisters as they cared for both parents.*

**Gary Barg:** Like so many family caregivers, you and your sisters have been caring for both parents at the same time and now, for just your dad. That's never easy. Can you tell me about caregiving for your mom and dad?

**Amy Grant:** When I came back from a really busy touring schedule in the fall of 2008, I realized my parents were declining, especially my mom. She was so frail, it was shocking. And so I canceled everything for 2009—all work, all travel, and tried to be home. I tried to do special things with my parents, helping my mom with bathing and getting dressed. About that time, one of my sisters and her husband moved in with my parents. And so, we were just kind of slowly circling the wagons. But dementia is such a different player. We've had in-house relatives before. Both my grandmothers lived with my two older sisters in the last three years of their lives, but dementia made it impossible to just carry

on in any normal way. Eventually, we had to get round-the-clock care for my mom.

**Gary Barg:** Your parents did something that a lot of people unfortunately don't do. They did a great job of preparing.

**Amy Grant:** Yes, they did.

**Gary Barg:** Could you walk us through that? [...more](#)

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## IN THIS ISSUE

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Amy Grant**

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Two Kisses**

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## FEATURED ARTICLE

### Helping the Mentally Ill

*By Jude Roberts*

The National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) is one of the largest nonprofit organizations in the United States, with self-help, support, and advocacy groups in every state, including Puerto Rico. Created in 1979, NAMI is completely dedicated to the elimination of all mental illness, as well as to the improvement of living standards for caregivers and persons affected by these diseases [...more](#)

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#### GUEST ARTICLE

## Alzheimer's: She Wanted Two Kisses

By Gwendolyn de Geest, RN, BSN, MA

*...this spouse shares creative solutions of learning to speak Alzheimer's*

Rose sits in the lounge chair. The morning rays of sunlight shine on her face, illuminating her once bright, blue eyes. A person greets her, "Good morning Rose." Rose doesn't respond, doesn't recognize this person who is greeting her  
[...more](#)

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#### CARETIPS

## Respite For Two

Adult day care centers provide a break (respite) to the caregiver while providing health services, therapeutic services and social activities for people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, chronic illnesses, traumatic brain injuries, developmental disabilities and other problems that increase their care needs. Some adult day care centers are dementia specific, providing services exclusively to that population. Other centers serve [...more](#)

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## CARENOTES

### From Rod:

Please help. My wife is going through her last stages of life now that stage 4 breast cancer that spread has taken over. I have four kids and I can no longer care for her physically. My income is very limited and I want to know if anyone can help me with ideas on how to handle the situation. Thank you!

[Reply to this week's CareNote](#)

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