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Caring for My Wife with Cancer • April 30, 2015 • Issue #808

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

Playing Kvetch

kvetch \ KVECH

adjective: 1. To complain habitually.

noun: 1. A complaint. | 2. A habitual complainer.

Sometimes, I feel there is a great disconnect between what is heard from the healthcare community and what caregivers are telling me themselves. (Ok, maybe more than often, just sometimes.) I do admit to feeling like somewhat of a kvetcher when these moments strike. But someone's got to do it.

Here we go:

Of course, you know my old complaint about the phrase "parenting your parent." "No matter what we have to do to support our parents as they need our help, we must never begin to think we are actually parenting them. ...more

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FEATURED ARTICLE

What I Learned by Caring for My Wife with Cancer

By Wally K.

In the very beginning of my wife, Ninfa's journey with a blood cancer called multiple myeloma, I felt stressed by the task of tracking her many daily medications. I wondered, "Should I give her another dose if I thought I had missed one?" or "Should I wait until the next scheduled dose and possibly miss the current one?" I knew that I wouldn't last long as a caregiver if I didn't develop an organized tracking system of knowing when and what medications I had given to her. A medication tracking system for your loved one can be as simple as handwritten notes. [...more](#)

GUEST ARTICLE

The Nearest Doorknob

By Jane Hoppe

Wednesday's red blouse and black jacket hang from the bathroom door's inside knob. Thursday's teal sweater and scarf hang from the bathroom door's outside knob. My lavender jacket never made it into the front closet; it is still on that doorknob. Wednesday's beige canvas tote bag and Thursday's Monet's Water Lilies tote bag remain suspended on my office doorknob. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

Avoiding Mistakes when Buying a Power Lift Chair Recliner: Five Tips From A Licensed Physical Therapist

By Jeff Roth MPT

If getting up and down from a sofa or chair is not as simple as it used to be for your loved one, buying a power lift chair may be the right move as they are relatively inexpensive for the benefits they provide. There are so many options, both in stores and online, when it comes to buying mobility equipment that it can become overwhelming. [...more](#)

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CAREVERSES

Joan

By Marie Davids

You sat in your wheelchair too weak
to care about life's swirl today.
Ennui or malaise don't quite describe
what I see in your face, your eyes.
When I speak you raise your hand
in a gesture that says
Sorry, too tired to listen.

[...more](#)

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