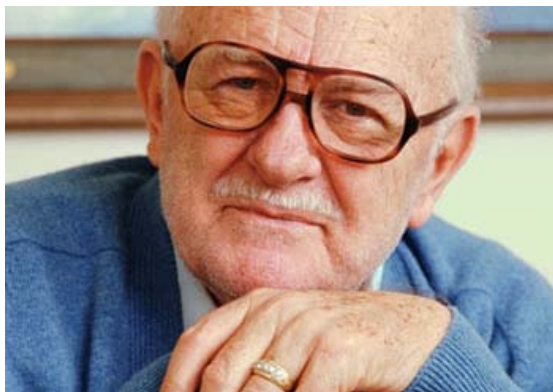


I'm Still Here

Alzheimer's and Dementia Education Services

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Forgive, O Lord, my little jokes on Thee And I'll
forgive Thy great big one on me
Robert Frost

Background

At the age of 15, I started working in a Nursing home in Lynn Ma, as a requirement for my Confirmation, as a nurse's aid. I can still remember walking in my first day and thinking "what am I doing, I must be out of my mind" By the second day, I found out what it meant to be the person who was responsible to care for, to love, respect and cherish those who no longer could do this for themselves.

During my years as a student at Bethany College in West Virginia, I majored in Psychology as well as volunteering as Hospice care coordinator for Health Care agencies in the Appalachian Mountains.

I am Certified Program Instructor through the Alzheimer's Association –"Train the Trainer" program. A Certified Dementia Practitioner and Instructor through the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. A certified Activity Director through the National Council of Certified Activity Professionals.

Through the years I've worked in Nursing Homes, Adult Day Centers, Home Health Agencies, Special care units, Dementia care units as well as private duty within the home. I've been able to work both as an Activity Director as well as a behavioral and dementia care consultant in all of these settings.



Because of my experiences and training with dementia, I have written several articles regarding difficult behaviors, the role of activities and exercise in the elderly with dementia.

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