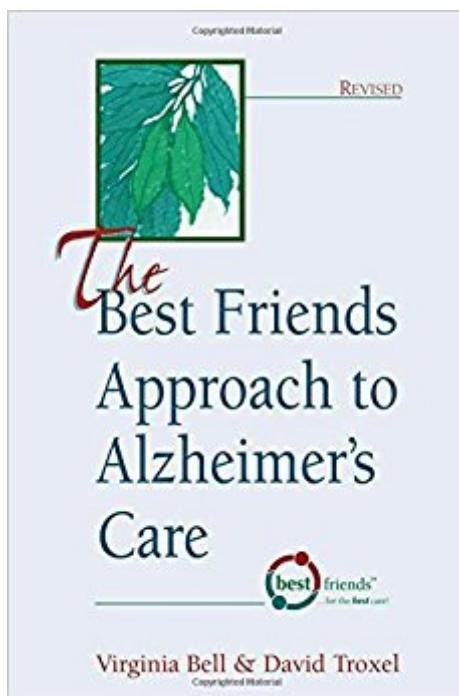


The book was found

The Best Friends Approach To Alzheimer's Care, Revised



Synopsis

Presentation of a model of care for Alzheimer's patients stressing empathy and friendship, for nurses, adult day center staff, and families of patients. Emphasizes the positive aspects of situations involving Alzheimer's care rather than patients' victimization. Softcover.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The best Alzheimer's caregivers, say Bell and Troxel, become friends with the knack for calmly directing sufferers through their frightening confusion. Responding with the knack guides a patient to acceptable behavior while providing "cuing about roles and identities." For instance, to a patient's inappropriate sexual advance toward his daughter, a "no-knack approach" would be to angrily respond, "You dirty old man! Stop that" ; one with the knack would be, "Daddy, it's Mary, your daughter. Look what I have here--a photograph of Mother. Isn't she pretty?" The responses suggested for other situations are similar. Bell and Troxel stress that Alzheimer's victims are usually confused, not malevolent or willful, and compassion and indulgence will keep situations from worsening and enhance peace of mind for caregiver and patient alike. This approach is time and energy intensive, but its decency makes the book a potential gold mine for afflicted families. The fill-in-the-blanks "Best Friends Assessment" form, however, makes the book problematic for libraries. Mike Tribby

"innovative and refreshing due to the relaxed and natural 'hands on' approach - an empowering

book that proves one can enjoy life after a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease." (Aging & Society 2001-01-01) "One of the first, and still one of my favorites [positive, uplifting books on Alzheimer's disease] is easy to grasp and always respectful of the person with the disease." (Kathy Laurenhue, Director of Special Projects, Mather Institute on Aging Alzheimer's Care Quarterly 2001-01-01) "For every friend, relative, or caregiver to a person with Alzheimer's, [Best Friends] offers practical advice, compassion and optimism in understanding and dealing with the challenges they face each day and how to bring out the best in the person with the disease, so that a life that seems at times hopeless can be a life of love and dignity." (Jack Canfield, author of Chicken Soup for the Soul 2001-01-01) "Virginia Bell and David Troxel ... argue persuasively that the proper metaphor for organizing our thinking in this area is not the distant clinical reserve of the professional but the open and engaged warmth of a best friend... [They] have written powerfully about this in their book." (William H. Thomas, founder, The Eden Alternative 2001-01-01) "Here at last are two compassionate, humorous, experienced authors (David Troxel and Virginia Bell) who say it's time to stop being morbid and negative about AD. ...It's the best training guide for families and professionals in print. A must for every Alzheimer's library." (Wiser Now 2001-01-01) "The Best Friends philosophy has been adopted as a model through Maine and has become one of our most valuable caregiving resources. We've seen it in action and heartily recommend it!" (Eleanor Goldberg, Executive Director, Maine Alzheimer's Association 2001-01-01) "...a potential gold mine for afflicted families." (Booklist 2001-01-01) "[Bell and Troxel] have laid out a way of relating that is immediately accessible to all involved in dementia and a policy and programme for service provision. Here is an initiative that is easy to understand and is within the immediate capacity of each of us to deliver." (Journal of Dementia Care 2001-01-01)

I bought this book because it sounded good, and I'm looking for a variety of approaches to working with persons living with AD. I LOVE THIS BOOK! It is so gentle, so positive, so logical, and so kind. I even love reading it because it is so giving and caring. This book would be great for the family, friends caregivers, for professional caregivers and for persons who casually interact with our friends living with dementia. I am so happy that I stumbled across it. I am a gerontologist and I love working with elders and meeting them in "their space." I so highly recommend this book for your library if you have a best friend to care for. I bought it used and it is in excellent condition.

This is one of the best books ever written on how to care for and understand Alzheimer's patients. My father's caregiver lovingly recommended this to me so that I could better understand why my

dad acted the way he did, as well as how to make myself understand my own approach to him as the disease stole him away from us. The caregiver said this book was used by the instructors when he was learning how to care for those who he would be working with, and he felt the families of Alzheimer's victims should all read this book and keep it for reference during their journey. I have bought so many of these for friends who are dealing with this pain that I should have bought stock in the company selling them. Buy one for anyone who needs the information and support this book provides. They will thank you.

A gift and they liked it

My sister found this book first and recommended it to me. When she had taken Mom in for a visit with her doctor, she even told him about this book! We both have been learning about Alzheimer/dementia on our own...pretty much winging it! But we were headed down the right road! This just provides more understanding and ideas on how to care for Mom.

This book was okay. I didn't like their "new" and "better" terminology or that the new terminology was italicized because it halted the reading flow. The basic information on Alzheimer's disease was good and that's why I gave the book 3 stars instead of 2.

This is a really great text outlining a different slant on how to care for the Alzheimers disorder. I love the concept utilized in this book, and have seen it at work in a local Adult Day-Services center. As a retired nursing professional I would like to see more use of this type of therapeutic care for the mentally impaired. I hope that the book will help to educate those who care for the aged, and AD persons. The families of those patients could be helped in their respite care.

Absolutely a great book. Very informative for dealing with Alzheimer's patients

Yes, the chapter on activities was most helpful for caregivers to understand how and what activities work for folks with dementia.

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