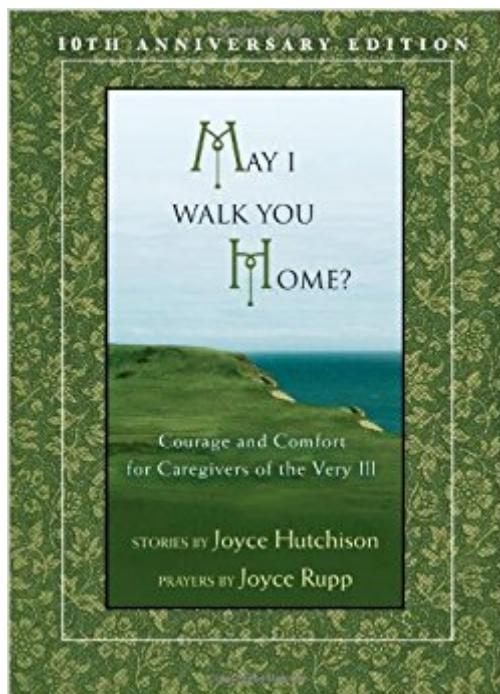


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# May I Walk You Home?: Courage And Comfort For Caregivers Of The Very Ill (10th Anniversary Edition)



## **Synopsis**

Reissued on its tenth anniversary, *May I Walk You Home?* remains an invaluable resource for professional caregivers and loved ones assisting those on their final journey home. Accompanied by the experience and empathy of hospice educator Joyce Hutchison and the wisdom and inspiration of best-selling author Joyce Rupp, readers will discover the courage necessary to embrace the struggles and rewards of this final companionship.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I keep several copies on hand to give to people when they encounter being in that caregiver position. I wish I would have it when my Mom passed on, but I didn't discover it until a few months after that. I call this book my little "bound blessing"! It is a most compassionate piece of work and of course, sad. But when you discover that one of the authors is not only a hospice care nurse but also a widow, the writing is even more profound and insightful. The prayers and stories helped to change my paradigm of death. What I found so wonderfully optimistic was the ability of the authors to extract the blessings that occurred and the lessons that were learned from each vignette of a life ending. (Note: I was going to put an example here of the summary of one story and the thoughtful meditation that follows the story, so I pulled out my book and started reading it. An hour and many tears later, I'll just say this...just buy the book!)

This book saved me this year as I've been caring for 3 elders, one with increasing dementia, and

another living with me as an invalid (my beloved dog) needing 24/7 care. The short stories are inspiring, while the meditations and prayers are a soothing God send reminding you that you are loved, that everything is in order, that the time together is short and life, even at the end, can be navigated if led by the heart. Thank you to both authors.

In January 2011 my mother became very sick and ended up in the hospital with pneumonia and a blockage. I was very concerned for her and at that time did not think she would be coming out of the hospital. After 10 days she finally returned to her apartment in the nursing home. And after that hospital stay she made the decision for no more hospital visits, doctor appointments, no antibiotics so as her children we were faced with all the what if's. We made a phone call to hospice and I started doing my own research to find comfort. I have been doing a lot of reading since January on "Death and Dying" and this book seemed very appropriate. I want to be able to "Walk my Mom home" she walked me into this world and I feel it's the least I can do for her. When I read the stories I take comfort knowing that even though she doesn't have cancer she too is terminal ill (old age) she is 87 and you can't fix 87. She has had an extremely wonderful life. And I am glad I found this book so I can help "Walk her Home". Smile4me:)

I love this idea of walking someone home and it has changed my view of caring for a loved one who is preparing to make their transition. These two nurses have shared their intimate journey with the dying and given us all a better understanding of what we need to do for ourselves as well as for our loved one who is going home.

I lost my Mom about 20 months ago. I've been caring for my ill father since then. I am amazed he has lived this long without Mom. He has dementia, congestive heart failure and kidney failure. He is declining and has been for a long time. I go through times of anticipatory grief and try to not do this. This book has been the most helpful book I've found. I look for resources when I need help and this book is at the top of the list. The authors have a faith and it is woven through out the book. The stories and imagery suggested have been very helpful for me. Two women experienced with this subject are the authors. One tells stories from having been a hospice worker and the other adds poetry at the end of each chapter. It was hearing a poem on NPR by one of the authors that made me track this book down.

I often end my evenings writing this beautiful book. It's an inspiration and it helps me focus on what

my passing might be like

For oncology workers, professional or otherwise, and for all hospice workers, including volunteers, this little book is exceedingly valuable. The book is a collection of anecdotal stories of the dying process of a variety of individuals. The stories are written with great sensitivity, wisdom, and gentle humor. At the close of each chapter is an inspiring prayer, relevant to the situation just described. The authors have written a very personal account of their experiences with the dying. This book < I believe, will lead the reader into a different way of looking at death-a way both practical and realistic, as well as highly spiritual.

I enjoyed every word of this book....sometimes through tears. I was so surprised when one of the stories mentioned the town I live in here in central Iowa! Imagine that! I could relate to so many of the stories and some of them reminded me of my family and friends who have passed in recent years. Everyone who is facing the death of a loved one will benefit from these wonderful windows into the journeys of those who have left us and who we all look forward to seeing again when it is our time to join them. Please read and share!

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