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Dear Clients and Friends:

You don't have to look far to find someone who is suffering from dementia. As life expectancy has nearly doubled, we've had to come to grips with Alzheimer's and seventy other forms of dementia. These diseases strip away our mind and our memory, like a giant eraser that no drug or treatment can deter.

The most common type of dementia by far is Alzheimer's. Over a period of years, the brain will shrink to one-third its original size. The area where memories are stored will literally vanish and become a hole. When someone suffers from this condition, it's important for others to remember "they're doing the best they can."

This is a phrase I picked up from a wonderful DVD called *Accepting the Challenge, Providing the Best Care for People with Dementia*. It was created for professional caregivers, but provides inspiration and ideas for any friend or family member of someone with memory loss. How are you going to interact with someone who can't reason or remember? You'll need a whole new skill set.

I have only one copy of this DVD, which is being widely shown in caregiver support group meetings. It's not available for sale and should not be reproduced, but I have permission from the publisher to lend it to anyone who's interested. The video has four sections and runs several hours. On a first-come, first-served basis I'll mail the DVD out with a return envelope, but the deal is it has to be returned in one week.

For a more detailed description of this program and three reviews, you can google "Accepting the Challenge DVD." Click on the second entry by skipping over the ad, which will take you to the right place on Amazon.com.

Regards,



Charles M. Shackelford