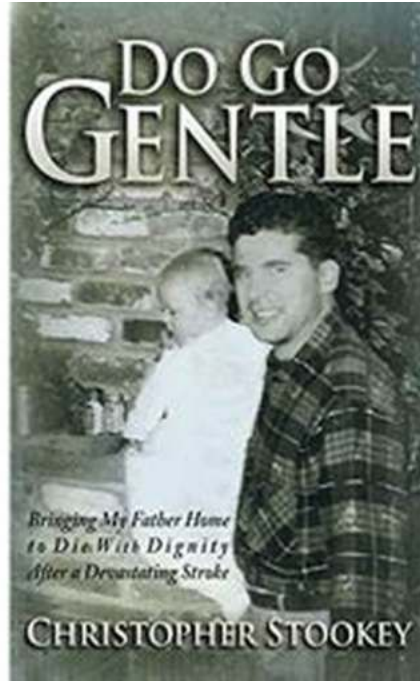


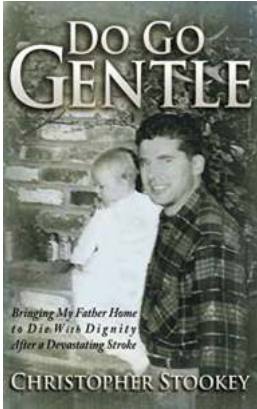
# Bringing My Father Home To Die With Dignity After Devastating Stroke



It was a sunny morning in May when our lives took an unexpected turn. My father, a strong and vibrant man, suffered a devastating stroke that left him paralyzed and unable to communicate. The doctors told us that there was little hope for a full recovery, and the best we could do for him now was to make him as comfortable as possible.

As a family, we knew that we had a difficult decision to make. The hospital offered to keep my father on life support indefinitely, but we knew that was not what he would have wanted. He had always been a man of dignity, and we wanted to honor that in his final days.

**Do Go Gentle: Bringing My Father Home to Die with Dignity After a Devastating Stroke**



by Christopher Stookey (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1649 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 178 pages  
Lending : Enabled



After much discussion, we made the difficult choice to bring my father home to die with dignity. We knew that it would not be an easy journey, but it was one that we were willing to undertake for him.

Bringing my father home meant making significant changes to our lives. We needed to transform our living room into a comfortable and functional space that could accommodate medical equipment and professionals. We enlisted the help of a hospice care team who provided us with the necessary equipment and support to make my father's transition as smooth as possible.

The first few days were challenging. We had to learn how to administer medications, change dressings, and assist with his daily activities. It was a steep learning curve, but we were determined to provide him with the best care we could.

Despite the hardships, there were moments of joy and connection. We would sit by his side and share stories, even if we weren't sure if he understood them. We played his favorite music, hoping it would bring him comfort. We watched old family videos, reminiscing about happier times.

It was during those intimate moments that I realized the true meaning of dignity. It wasn't just about physical comfort; it was about providing emotional support, love, and understanding. Even though my father couldn't speak, I could see the gratitude in his eyes. He knew that he was surrounded by family who loved him, and that gave him the strength to keep fighting, even if it was just for a little while longer.

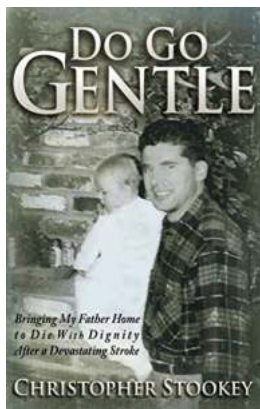
As the days turned into weeks, my father's condition deteriorated. We knew that his time with us was limited, but we were grateful for every moment we had together. The hospice care team was invaluable in guiding us through this difficult process, providing not only medical support but also emotional counseling for our entire family.

On a warm summer evening, surrounded by loved ones, my father took his last breath. It was a peaceful and dignified passing. We knew we had made the right decision to bring him home, where he could be surrounded by familiar sights, sounds, and smells.

Saying goodbye to my father was undoubtedly the hardest thing I have ever done. But through this experience, I learned the importance of making end-of-life decisions that align with a person's values and wishes. Bringing him home allowed us to honor his dignity and provide him with the love and care he deserved until the very end.

Having gone through this journey, I want others to know that there is an option to bring their loved ones home to die with dignity. It may be difficult, but it is a profoundly meaningful and rewarding experience. It allows for precious moments of connection and the opportunity to provide comfort and support in the most challenging of times.

Let my story be a reminder to cherish every moment with your loved ones, to embrace the difficult decisions, and to never underestimate the power of home and dignity in the face of adversity.



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On a September night not long after his 83rd birthday, William Stookey suffered a massive stroke. It left him conscious yet paralyzed, unable to swallow, and unable to talk and communicate. His doctors—after a barrage of scans and other tests—determined that there was little chance for recovery.

This is the story, as told by William’s physician son, of a family’s difficult decision to bring a loved-one home to die a planned death due to “terminal dehydration”—a death brought about by the withholding of all food and water. Told in candid and poignant detail, *Do Go Gentle* describes the process of that death as well as a family’s agonizing, yet loving, act of letting go.

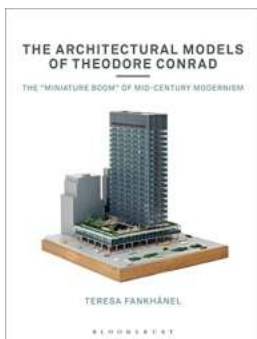
**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Christopher Stookey is an emergency physician and author. His novels include *TERMINAL CARE* and *WHERE DEATH IS A HUNTER*.

He lives in Laguna Beach, California with his wife and two dogs.



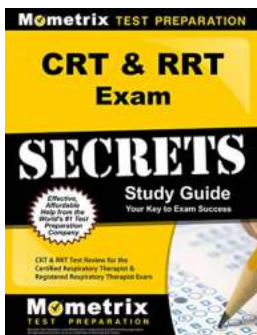
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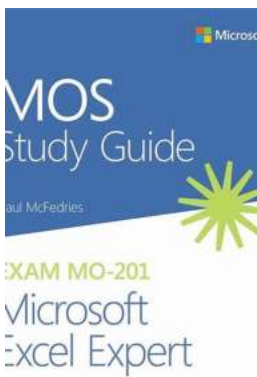
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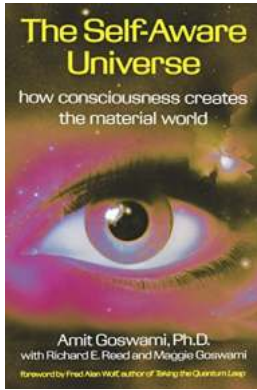
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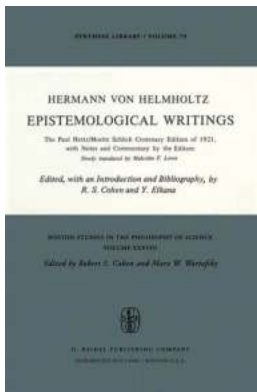
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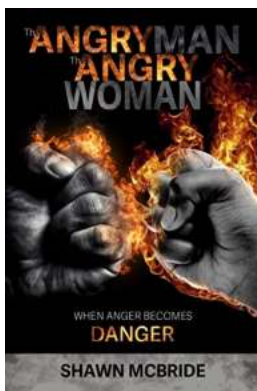
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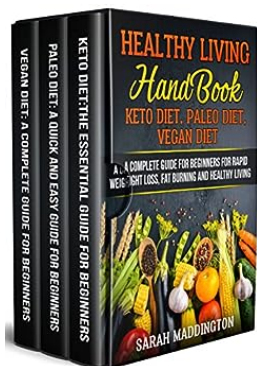
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