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## When Roles Reverse

## A GUIDE TO PARENTING YOUR PARENTS



Jim Comer

When Roles Reverse: A Guide to Parenting Your Parents



After his father suffered an enormous stroke and his mother was identified as having Alzheimer's, Jim Comer found himself an overnight "parent" at the age of 51. When he walked into his father's medical center room everyone appeared to him because the "guy who knew all of the answers. .With laugh-out-loud humor, Jim handles improvisational moments that there is no preparation: You find three gallons of Scotch in your dad's retirement home closet; He learned to cope with hospitals, insurance companies, rehab centers, his father's deafness and his mother's dementia. Through everything Jim has kept his sanity and sense of humor, along the way forging a deeper, even more intimate relationship with his parents. In ten years of caregiving, Comer hasn't only learned the questions he has lived them, and with When Functions Reverse he shares his hard-won answers. Your Mom won't leave her home of 34 years and can only be coaxed into the car with promises of ice cream; Choosing the first-rate care facility and getting long-term care insuranceNew Medicaid suggestions and how to gualifyHospice care and attention and end-of-life decisionsWhen Roles Reverse even contains "Fifty Questions which will save you Time, Money, and Tears," a particular section designed to help families initiate vital conversation and plan the crises, dilemma and unpredicted joys of caregiving." He soon understood he didn't even know the questions. And will be offering personal experience and expert insight on the many issues it's absolutely essential to program for such as: Wills, powers of lawyer, and other legal documents every family needsWhich siblings will be there when your parents want them? At a crowded Sunday dinner table, your father announces that he wants you to give him an enema after lunch.



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While this publication contains some good details for the caretakers of people needing specialized care, I found it rather superficial in areas. The key to really getting the most out of this book is to take your time with it. Read it slowly, one chapter at the same time. The book includes a list of fifty queries that aging parents should be asked--before an emergency occurs. It's also an eyes opener for your own upcoming care and I highly recommend everyone go through this book even though you don't have a member of family to care for. the longer you take with it, the more you will enjoy it. You can find so many take-away's, from learning about the health care system, to decision making, to presenting difficult conversations together with your parents, to making mistakes & most of most, learning how to roll with the punches that life - and old age - throws at us. It can be tough and messy and all encompassing and also overwhelming at times. Through everything, Jim shares a significant message: "Just arrive. This book was written so anyone can read it and enjoy the personal stories told. There have been several times when his descriptions knocked my socks off. When discussing facing the inevitable he writes, "There exists a choreography to death and I didn't know the steps." . Among our associates suggested that it might be smart to send each of our children a copy of this book. I would recommend this book to anyone searching for a great story, some inspiration, and instruction though not merely on how to parent your parents - but how to be a great man / son / friend.A choreography to loss of life...It is a tale of personal encounter. It's simply brilliant. When discussing his Dads last moments he writes, "He just stopped breathing and suggestion tiptoed out of our lives. I resisted the idea, thinking that they would consider the gesture as a plea for help and a sign that we were about to become a burden to them.Working in long-term care meant for a lot more than 20 years, reading this book has been like being a doctor who suddenly requirements surgery and discovers themselves on the other side of the bed. It is eye opening and refreshing and promising and sometimes crazy and crappy.. Excellent resource for anybody with senior parents If found Parenting Your Parents to be the most helpful guideline to navigating this challenging period of life. Great book. watch every few months roughly) is his informing "you" to not appropriate them, enter their world, don't interrupt them if they're telling you a similar thing for the gazillionth time, etc. Not really everything fit me from this book, but really had good ideas and great humor to help get through some rough waters. Mr. It was extremely helpful and I would suggest it to anyone with senior parents. Very useful! One hint is that the best info is in the second half of the publication. My parent was going right through some of the identical things as the author's parents and even in the same geographical area. This book couldn't have come at an improved time for me.S. I understood nothing about caregiving and this book was just like a guideline for action and so a lot more than that. It's like savoring ice cream; Whether or not I will send copies of the publication later is not certain at this stage, but it's certainly an option. I could say prices have risen since this book was published and I can also confirm that the highest priced places are not necessarily the very best. Jim combines expert advice, real action items with tales from his own life. details about what you should have covered & believe it is rather valuable. The book contains information that is good on an emotional level as well as a pragmatic level. Jim Comer's writing style is very enjoyable. The only reason I didn't give it five superstars is that the book, while practical & pleasurable, was a bit depressing to me. I'll send each one of the kids a copy of the questionnaire in the middle of the book, done with the information we have accumulated so much and can invite their insight. that imparts the non-tech info in a more palatable way (for me personally) because of Jim's delivery. Why about non-tech info can be that the Dvd movie (that i have on my iPod & The guy can find humor and humanity in one of life's many emotionally painful, stressful situations--key

to living through parenting parents with your sanity intact. I often mentally proceed through this list on my way to my mother's home.IMO, the book & the DVD very much supplement each other because the book lists details about elder care attorneys  $\Theta$  l've had this reserve for over a 12 months right now & the DVD offers even more with the dealings of day to day life. Great resource This is an extremely well researched and well written work with lots of personal experience included Beneficial to me as a son, and as a hospice chaplain We am a hospice chaplain, and I came across this book to be very useful in that part, and also helpful when my mother got dementia in her last years. The writer has written an engaging account of his relinquishing his career and moving to Austin to oversee care for his parents. A lot of helpful details is provided about degrees of care, great consultants, and companies for every condition. Give yourself time and energy to think and think about the story he's telling. Parents need this reserve, too While this book is written from the viewpoint of the child, it is vitally important for parents to read it as well. My husband and I began years ago to accumulate the type of documents we need, but after reading the book I know that we have a lot more to do. I would have shared my duplicate with her, but I don't want to give it up!." It really is this kind of composing that makes such an uncomfortable subject even more palatable, and I really appreciate his design. Having browse the book, I have changed my brain. I did so get his DVD & I can't thank the author enough. It is not what I expected. It is a ... It isn't what I expected. I mean who write like this? I need a guide. A true guide if you ask me. I have browse the stories and taken advice. I need help on a different way but really had guidelines and great humor to help get through some ... VERY helpful for me personally as I am navigating looking after my folks. After my mom got sick my family had to take into account what another right step was on her behalf and dad. Excellent guide This is a must-read book for anyone with aging parents--or anyone who's getting older! Comer writes in a conversational design, with humor and tenderness. Strongly suggested! Best book I've found upon this subject. I also have a deceased wife who experienced experiences similar to the ones Mr. It's easier to plan ahead than to scramble to create a remedy once something lifestyle changing happens."Jim is a brilliant story teller who is able to paint a wonderful story that spans more than 95 years, in only a handful of well written pages. It really is so full of information I'll definitely continue to utilize it. I even bought a copy for a dear friend who is going through a lot of the same struggles with her parents. At our church we've a "Keeping On" group for the elderly who are concerned about their futures. Helpful, but superficial I read this reserve after attending a presentation given by Mr. Comer. Checklist offers proven extremely valuable to my children! Comer writes about with his parents.Fantastic Book -RECOMMEND! Easy to read book is quite enlightening on the subject of elderly care in the U. WHEN I read this reserve I purchased copies for my sister and brother to greatly help guide us meetings. Comer appears to imply that it really is just aging parents who may need help. Sometimes it is your partner or another family member. Be aware that it's estimated that about half a million American under 65 have Early Starting point Alzheimer's Disease.



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