

KEMPER KONNECTION

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A WORD TO THE WISE... WHAT TO GIVE MOM FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's Day is around the corner. Children are busy preparing a wondering homemade gift for mom. Coffee filter flowers, or perhaps a real flower planted at school in a handpainted pot. Maybe a butterfly painted with their little footprints. Sunday morning breakfast in bed. Handmade coupons for mom, redeemable for cleaning one's room, or giving mom an hour of quiet time. Mother's Day is a time to honor the woman who gave us life, and so much more.

Above all, moms are known for the infinite wisdom they impart to us as we go through life. We all have specific words of wisdom we remember mom repeating over and over. We shall be ever-grateful for their wise words:

- Cleanliness is next to Godliness.
- Never put off tomorrow what you can do today.
- A watched pot never boils.
- Put your best foot forward.
- I have a memory like an elephant.
- Actions speak louder than words.
- Strike while the iron is hot!
- Love your neighbor as yourself.
- Early to bed, early to rise, makes a person healthy, wealthy & wise.
- Measure twice, cut once.
- Better safe than sorry.
- Find a penny, pick it up and all the day you'll have good luck.
- Half a loaf is better than none.
- Children should be seen and not heard.
- Treat others like you would like to be treated!
- Finish your supper! People are starving in China.
- Just wait 'til your father gets home!
- You can't go back; you can only go forward!
- Always do what's right!
- Judge not lest you be judged!
- No one knows what goes on behind closed doors.
- He's riding for a fall...
- Walk softly but carry a big stick
- He who laughs last, laughs best.
- A new broom cleans...and sweeps all the trash away.
- Idle hands are the devil's workshop!
- When a task is once begun, never leave until it's done!
- Better late, than never.
- The buck stops here, Harry.
- That's the straw that broke the camel's back.
- That's a fine kettle of fish...
- Let the good times roll.
- That's the goose that laid the golden egg.
- His bark is worse than his bite.
- Still waters run deep
- Be quick as a wink
- Pursue happiness...It is a moral obligation.
- All good things must come to an end.

My favorite piece of wisdom is that *mother knows best*, but I didn't heed that advice until I became a mom myself!

Mother's Day took on a new meaning for me nearly four years ago when my first son was born just two days prior. The nurses

in the hospital made a sign for his bassinet wishing me a happy early mother's day. In his four years of life, he has taught me much about what it means to be a mom, and he's inspired me to try to be a better person. I know the years ahead will be filled with many lessons too—for both of us! Now each year, I look forward to celebrating his birth—the event that ushered me into the ranks of motherhood—in tandem with Mother's Day.

What does Mother's Day mean to you? It probably isn't the kind of day it used to be. For those of us dealing with Alzheimer's, it is a time to honor our two moms — the one who has already left us and the one left behind.

There are many ways you can honor mom (or dad, as Father's Day is coming in June!) on her special day. The gift of time, a visit from you (if geographically possible) might be just enough. Looking for a gift to give to mom? Consider the stage she is in when selecting a gift. In the early stages, gifts probably wouldn't be much different than what you would have given before a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or a related disorder. More ideas for each stage:

Early Stage

- Classic movies and TV shows
- Activity books: math games, crossword puzzles
- Music CD's – especially music that also stimulates reminiscing
- Reading material that reflects the interests of the reader

Middle Stage

- Activities to inspire reminiscing
- Senior Activity Books
- Any manipulative device that promotes movement (of the hands, arms, etc.)
- Simple games and puzzles
- Anything that stimulates any of the senses

Late Stage

- Nature videos that feature visual and auditory stimulation
- Doll or stuffed animal
- Weighted lap pad or apron
- Twiddle®Muff

For more information on these gift ideas, go to www.best-alzheimers-products.com.

Wishing you a very happy Mother's Day!

-Jenny Kemper

(The list of Mother's Wisdom was generated by our residents with Carol Sereix during recent creative writing activities.)

THE LEGEND OF GOURDIE THE GOURD AND PATRICK PALM

*BY THE RESIDENTS OF OLMSTED FALLS APRIL 2012
FACILITATED BY CAROL S*

Once upon a time, there was a wise old Palm tree, named Patrick. Patrick was 1,158 years old, and was revered worldwide for his wisdom...

One day, as Patrick spread his lofty branches, he felt the warm breezes....saw the azure blue Hawaiian sky...and was satisfied and happy.

All of sudden, he felt something crawling up his trunk... Why, it was Gourdie the Gourd...who had arrived in Hawaii by boat, and landed at Patrick's roots...

Gourdie the Gourd gingerly crawled to the top of Patrick the Palm...and said in a very smug, Gourd-like voice, "Ha Ha, I am now taller than you....and I am only 20 years old." "Imagine how tall I'll be when I'm 1158 years old!!" "Why...I'll be a mile and 7 ft. high!!" With that, Gourdie the Gourd saucily threw back his green shell...and gave a giggle.

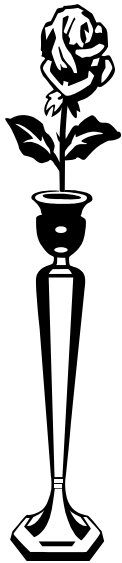
But wise old Patrick the Palm replied, " Oh, Gourdie, every year, little gourds wind around me and climb to my top....But, the experience is short lived--as they tumble to the ground...

And, Patrick, the wise Palm tree...watched in dismay, as Gourdie the Gourd...came crashing down....

The Moral of this story is: A rapid rise, means an equally rapid descent.

The End





ALZHEIMER'S PRAYER

Please grant my visitors tolerance for my confusion,
 Forgiveness for my irrationality, and the strength
 To Walk with me into the mist of memory,
 My world has become.

Please let them take my hand and stay awhile,
 Even though I seem unaware of their presence.
 Help them to know how their strength and loving care will drift slowly
 Into the days to come just when I need it most.

Let them know when I don't recognize them
 That I will, I will.

Keep their hearts free from sorrow for me,
 For my sorrow, when it comes,
 Only lasts a moment, then it's gone.
 And finally, please let them know,
 How very much their visits mean,
 How even through this relentless mystery,
 I can still feel their love.

Alzheimer's Support Group

*Meeting the first Tuesday of every
 month 10a-11a at the
 Strongsville Senior Center. Please
 call to RSVP.*

**Ehrnfelt Senior Center
 18100 Royalton Road
 Strongsville, OH 44136
 440-580-3276**

HAND-MADE JEWELRY PARTY

*You are cordially invited to attend a
 hand-made jewelry party,*

Monday, May 21st @ 6:30p.m.

*A portion of the proceeds will be
 donated to the Alzheimer's Association.
 Prices are very reasonable. If you are
 unable to attend, your loved one will still
 be given the opportunity to purchase an
 item. The cost will not exceed \$10.00
 unless you request otherwise. If you
 would like to attend, please RSVP at
 the front desk by Friday, May 18th.*



*Note:
 Cash or checks only*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

*While your kindness is appreci-
 ated, many of our Resident's are on
 special diets . If a Resident requests
 food or drink, please ask a caregiver
 to assist rather than taking it upon
 yourself.*

*Also, when meals are being
 served, please be courteous of the
 hospitality servers and refrain from
 entering the serving area.*

In Memoriam

**May God bestow His blessings upon those
 families and friends**

who have lost their loved one.

Frank A. 4/5 Virginia Y. 4/10

George M. 4/21

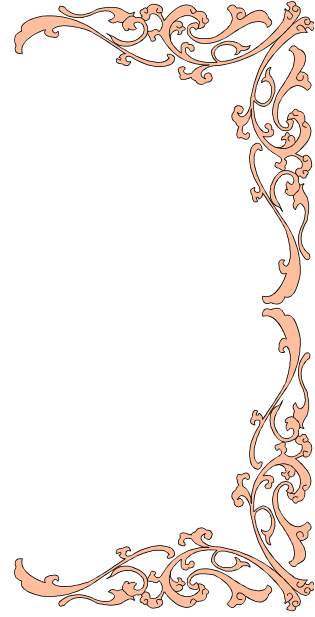
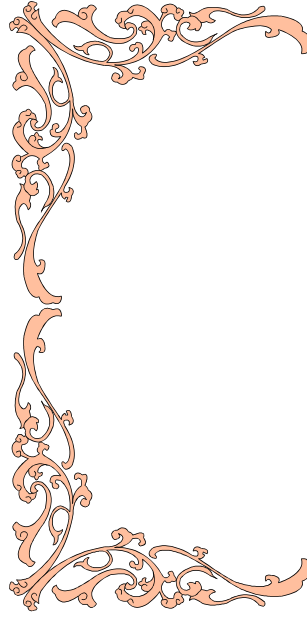
Rose A. 4/24 Paul H. 4/25

Kemper House Olmsted Falls
25880 Elm Street
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138

Phone: (440) 235-5500
Fax: (440) 235-5850

Web: www.KemperHouse.com

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Welcome to the Neighborhood



*Gretchen N. Suite 228
Eva & Russell R. Suite 127
Henry F. Suite 104A Michael T. Suite 214A*

Employees

*Nicole T. 5/13
Amanda H. 5/20
Richard A. 5/21
Taylor K. 5/23
Nina B. 5/26
Barbara D. 5/26
Leah T. 5/29
Diane W. 5/29
Michelle C. 5/31*



Residents

*Joseph J. 5/01
Herman P. 5/15
Helen D. 5/16
Richard S. 5/19
George R. 5/27*