

A Cup of Tea on the Commode

Mark Steven Porro

More Praise

The author "takes an unflinching look at the unglamorous yet rewarding journey as the primary caretaker of his dying mother. Interspersed with the day-to-day saga of this new undertaking, are stories from his childhood growing up in a Catholic family with 5 siblings in New Jersey. He weaves them together, employing a wickedly humorous skill not unlike that of David Sedaris and Augusten Burroughs. Let the reader be forewarned that this memoir is sometimes painfully graphic in its descriptions of the process of death and dying. It was not without a great deal of love and personal sacrifice that Porro made the process as comfortable and dignified as possible."

— Matthew C., *5-Star review on Amazon.*

A wonderful story of a man helping his mother toward end of life. The love he shows her and the patience he has is so lovely. Funny stories of his family and upbringing makes you laugh and remember your own childhood. I also was with both my parents when they passed so it was a reminder of those times, sad but worth saying last goodbyes. A wonderful read for all.

— Jane Clark, *5-Star review on Amazon.*

All my life I thought I was a slow reader, but it turns out I just needed to find the right book! I started reading this after midnight and couldn't put it down till 5:30 in the morning. I recommend this book to anyone who wants to laugh out loud and perhaps shed a joyful tear, as this memoir explores the humor, heart, and beautiful flaws of family!

— Owen S., *5-Star review on Amazon.*

Life, Family, Love. Laughs and Tears. Remembrance and Tribute to town, a time, a mom. This book has it all.

— Diana D., *5-Star review on Amazon.*

Loved this book! Reading it was more like sitting with Mark, a glass of wine and chatting about life, love, and parents. For those fortunate enough to be able to care for a mom or dad during their end of life, you could be reading your own story. So many similarities with my life and love of my parents. And good memories of a childhood sans cell phone, tablets, and video games. We had silly outdoor fun! Kudos to the author. Well done!

— Marilyn G., *5-Star review on Amazon.*

Not many books out there will give you an honest look at a reversal of rolls of caring for a parent in their older age. This book will make you laugh out loud, "ring a bell" in your own life, cry a tear or two and make you smile. The Author not only "steps up to the plate" taking care of his mother during her last few years on this earth, but carries the reader through a journey of reflections of his youth and growing up under HER care.

— CJV, *5-Star review on Amazon.*

I could have inhaled this book, but it was too good, too funny, too revealing, too transparent and too intimate a memoir to rush through. My breath was literally taken away in tears and laughter. It is so much more of a memoir of just one person but of a whole family in a time and place I also called home. The period details are so rich and comforting. The love between Mark and his mom is such that one feels a certain destiny was fulfilled and captured in this book. I don't know if I loved the book because of the family it illuminates or because the writing is so good and funny.

— Kathy N., *5-Star review on Amazon.*

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