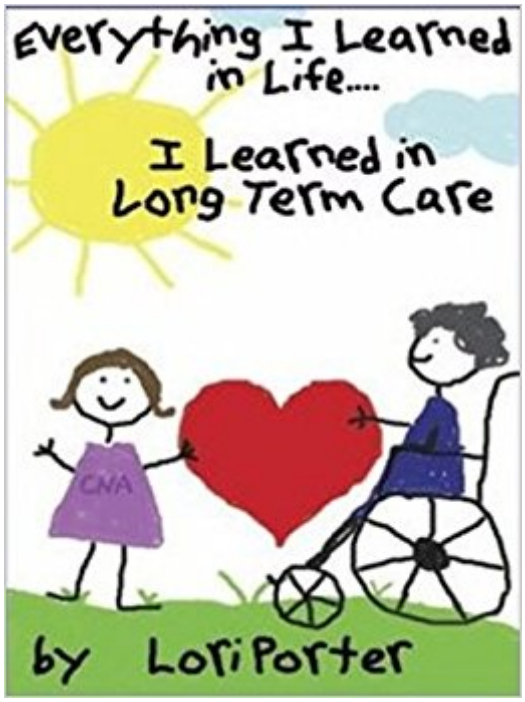
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Everything I Learned In Life I Learned In Long Term Care



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Synopsis

This wonderful easy to read book has stories that are faced by caregivers around the world on a daily basis. Lori tells them in a way that allows all readers to enjoy and understand the great dedication and love that is shared between the elderly and those who care for them. Each chapter concludes with a Life's Lesson. This is the important message that each real life story demonstrates. The stories communicate this message through humor, tears, laughter and empathy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lori Porter is co-founder and C.E.O. of NAGNA which stands for the National Association of Geriatric Nursing Assistants. NAGNA is a professional association of CNAs with a membership of over 30,000 nationwide. Lori has over 20 years experience in long term care. She started her career as a CNA and in 1989 she became a nursing home administrator. She is licensed in Kansas and Missouri. After 7 years of nursing home operations Lori pursued a dream and became a pioneer in CNA recruitment, retention, recognition, education, and empowerment. Lori and her associates have spent over 75,000 hours on the frontline working with CNAs and their management teams. Under her leadership NAGNA has proven that empowering CNAs is the way this industry can reduce turnover and meet staffing challenges.

I was born in Baxter Springs, Kansas, in the early sixties. I remember going with my mother to visit an elderly friend of hers who was living in a nursing home and wondering what was wrong with her

and the other residents that would cause them to have to live in a place like this. It didn't occur to me that old age was a condition. Mrs. Brown was mother's friend, and boy, was she ancient. I sat by the bed while they visited. (There wasn't much for a kid of four years old to do in a nursing home.) It wasn't long before I discovered that old people have flabby arms. Mrs. Brown had incredible soft skin, and I wanted to touch it badly but was convinced if I was to be so bold, it would embarrass my mother, and in turn, she would slap me out of my chair. My desire got the best of me-I had to touch that flabby, soft skin. Finally, I could not resist any longer, and my right hand went for it. Once my mom discovered it, she nearly died on the spot. "Lori, stop that right now." She apologized to Mrs. Brown, but the old friend said, "Oh, honey, let her have her way. She's not bothering me; it actually feels pretty good." I thought yes, it does to me too. Well, Mrs. Brown saved me; I didn't get in trouble, and I had a way of occupying my time while on the visits. It also brought smiles to Mrs. Brown's face so how could it be bad? Who knew this was a glimpse of things to come. Life Lesson #1 The young and old have a lot to offer one another, among these are the value of a touch and a smile. I learned at a very early age that it was a pleasant experience to touch an old person and that it was a means of communication

This book is an honest look at the path of one Certified Nursing Assistant. The author shares not only her triumphs and life-lessens learned but also her set-backs. It is an easy to read, humorous look at life in the long term care profession from an employee standpoint and celebrates our nations frail elderly and those that care for them.This book is a must read for anyone connected to long term care; employers, employees, residents and their families.

Really good book. I especially like Porter's declaration that folks working in the long term care industry have an immense power -- the power to either validate a resident's psychosocial status or to strip them of every shred of dignity they have. This is powerful stuff -- should be required reading for every single person working in a nursing home.

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