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From Grave to Cradle to Now

The Health Care Professional Edition

Hospital CEO

"Your loved one has just suffered a traumatic brain injury" - these are words that are certain to cause dread and tremendous anxiety for any family. Once the shock begins to abate, family and friends want to know what to expect and what they can do immediately and over the coming months of rehabilitation. This vivid and powerful book about a real life experience is filled with valuable insights and lessons that are certain to help patients, families and health professional alike to improved patient outcomes and experiences within the healthcare system.

Cliff Nordal

Shared President and CEO (Retired)

London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care

Nurse Educator

I am pleased to have an opportunity to provide an endorsement for "From Grave to Cradle to Now". It is essential for health care professional to learn about and understand the lived experiences of both patients and family members in order to provide compassionate care. "From Grave to Cradle to Now" reminds each of us of in a compelling way how lives can be changed in an instant and the strength, courage and support required to live through these experiences.

Cheryl Isaak, RN, MSN

Associate Dean, Specialty Nursing

British Columbia Institute of Technology

Doctor Educator

Ian's account of his journey with his son and family through a major head injury is ongoing. More importantly, it is captured as a whole lived experience, including the explainable, the frightening, the joyful and the mysterious. It is the story before analysis, before explanation and before the extraction of "useful" guidance for professionals that captures the heart. Read the words, see his family and yours and marvel at your good fortune to have this account. Learning will follow.

David A. Gass, MD, CCFP, FCFP

Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Dalhousie University

Psychotherapist

This is a well written book of compelling nature, capturing attention, giving goosebumps at times, and not needing endorsement. We can all identify with it.

The anguish and struggle of its characters to be better, to do better, to reach higher is a recipe for ongoing spiritual growth of everyone who is intent on growing and a reminder to those who are missing the opportunity.

Dr. J. N. Vanek, MD,
Psychotherapist

Lawyer and Journalist

Although I am not a health professional, I know only too well as a parent and a journalist that hellish health experiences of the sort experienced by the Powell family can strike at any time - usually when they are utterly unexpected.

Knowing how health care professionals can be expected to respond - one of the lessons of this book - is extremely important knowledge for navigating through the experience. This book, which could not have been easy to write, involved me in a family's extremely personal emotional experience - and opened my eyes to aspects of Ontario's health system which I have never been exposed to before.

I am grateful to Ian Powell for taking me on the harrowing journey.

Harold Levy

Criminal lawyer and journalist.

Retired as a staff reporter at the Toronto Star in 2006