



**PRESS
RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**



Alzheimer's Symposium and Book Signing with Author

Mary Ellen Geist at Forever Books

Mary Ellen Geist, author and former CBS radio anchor, will be at Forever Books at 312 State St. in downtown St. Joseph on Thursday, August 21, at 7p.m. She will be speaking and signing her new book *Measure of the Heart: A Father's Alzheimer's, A Daughter's Return*. The symposium and signing are sponsored by Forever Books, Hospice at Home, and the Area Agency on Aging. Mary Ellen Geist has been featured in the *New York Times*, and recently appeared on the Today Show and the Diane Rheim Show on NPR. On August 21 at 11 a.m. she will be a guest on the Brenda Layne show on WSJM AM 1400. Space at the symposium is limited; so call Forever Books at 269-982-1110 to reserve your place or pre-order a copy of the book.

"Measure of the Heart" is a combination memoir and caregiver handbook. Mary Ellen Geist left behind her award-winning career as a CBS radio anchor and returned home to Detroit, Michigan to assist her mother in caring for her father, a victim of Alzheimer's. Geist uses her own personal story - as well as extensive interviews with doctors and others who have left careers to care for an aging parent - to inspire and provide advice for the thousands of Americans experiencing similar situations. She will share her and her parents' journeys and provide survival tips for caregivers. The Area Agency on Aging will address local resources for caregivers, followed by a question and answer period with the author and sponsors.

Hospice at Home is the non-profit community hospice focusing on the patient and family regardless of the patients' diagnosis, treatment choices, life expectancy, or ability to pay. It provides quality care to people adjusting to living with a serious illness, to people facing death, to people anticipating the death of a loved one, or to people healing their grief after the death of a loved one. Hospice at Home places an emphasis on the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of those who need care and those

receiving support services. Serving Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, and Allegan Counties, the care is coordinated by a team of physicians, nurses, home health aides, social workers, spiritual care counselors, bereavement coordinators, and trained volunteers. Extending this care, Lory's Place, a bereavement and education center that builds hope and strength for every grieving family, is available to anyone in Southwest Michigan or Northern Indiana.

For more information about Hospice at Home, call 269-429-7100 or 1-800-717-3811, or go to www.hospiceathomecares.org. For more information about the book signing event at Forever Books, call 269-982-1110 or go to www.foreverbooks.net

Contact: Cathy Berk
Hospice at Home
4025 Health Park Lane
St. Joseph, MI 49085
Phone 269-429-7100

Contact: Robin Allen
Forever Books
312 State St.
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269-982-1110