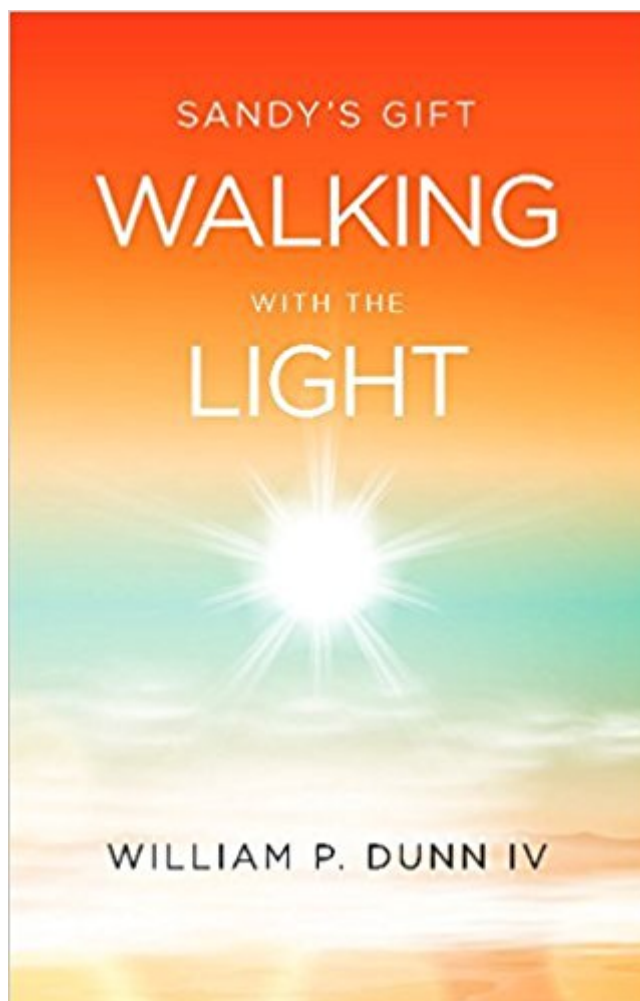


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Sandy's Gift: Walking With The Light



Synopsis

1996 the U.S. House of Representatives and President Bill Clinton passed a law today known as 'HIPAA.' Sandy's Gift is an intimate and shocking true story that tells of the plight in which this law places American families with members afflicted by mental illness.

Book Information

Paperback: 316 pages

Publisher: Cedar Forge Press (March 8, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1943290121

ISBN-13: 978-1943290123

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.9 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,058,085 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in Books > Law > Health & Medical Law > Mental Health #346 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Exercise & Fitness > Walking #4847 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hiking & Camping

Customer Reviews

Bill has revealed his breathtaking story of love and courageous struggles against a flawed healthcare system in the wake of heartbreak and poignant, family tragedy. Sandy's Gift, a riveting read throughout, is both a profound tribute to tenacious devotion and a chilling wake-up call for everyone, especially those whose lives have been impacted by the presence and aftermath of mental illness. --Gordon Thomas Ward, author of Tracing Infinity

WILLIAM P. DUNN IV graduated from Thiel College in 1979 with a dual degree in Economics and Business Administration. He worked on Wall Street in the U.S. government primary dealer's bond market, working his way up from the back office to the trading desks. After twenty years on Wall Street, he became a financial adviser in northern New Jersey. Bill is now a widowed grandfather, self-employed and living in the paradise that is Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Sandy's Gift is Bill's first published book, an autobiography based on true events and life-changing experiences.

This book is a true story written by William P. Dunn IV, author and personal friend on mine. I have known Billy since I was about 12 yrs old - I am now age 55. I grew up with Billy's brother John

spending countless hours and days around the Dunn family. I can tell you without any uncertainty that William P. Dunn IV, or Billy as we know him, is a class act. I just knew - when Billy would wash, buff, and armor all every inch of his new steel blue flake Trans Am in the mid '70's (with that awesome eagle on the hood) that this detail oriented guy had passion for what he loved, and he would do whatever it took to keep that baby in tip top shape!! So too was the way I see Billy's love for Sandy in this book. This recount of Billy's young life and marriage to Sandy is wonderfully written and takes the reader through many years of fishing trips, family vacations, and personal family events. The beauty of nature and their love of family, pets, horses and other animals is clear throughout the book. It reads like a fairy tale captivating your attention to find out what happens next! Slowly over time Sandy begins to exhibit behavior that Billy knows is not normal - this is where, over many years, the tragedy begins to unfold! If you know of someone suffering from any sort of mental illness, please do yourself a huge favor and read this book. Mental illness is not something you can put your hands on like an apple or an orange. It is mysterious as someone unrelated to say, Sandy, might think that her behavior was totally normal when in fact it wasn't. And who best to know than Sandy's husband Bill. What do you do when you reach out for help and that help never comes. We rely on "the system", the one we abide by, the one we pay taxes too, the one we fight with our lives for in war. Bill Dunn relied on the system and they failed him miserably. Eventually, Billy gets his justice, and holds those responsible accountable for their actions, or inactions in this case. Finally, the reader will get to hear first hand how it feels to be moved spiritually by a loved one with unexplained messages from "beyond" the physical world. The love between Billy and Sandy comes full circle in the end as the reader is left feeling happy and proud that the Dunn family gets justice from a broken "system" and healing through unexplained spiritual contact. The final result - this Book!! I hope it helps just one family in need, as I know that's all Billy would want! Thnx Billy!! TD

Great book, worth the read and very enlightening

Reviewing a Memoir is a Little Difficult. A memoir isn't a work of fiction with neatly concluded plots or well rounded characters to love or hate. Memoirs are personal. Memoirs are real. Memoirs are often written in a somewhat inconsistent manner--jumping from memories to memories or grouping events without regard to forming a "flow" for the reader. The author jumps around a bit through the early stages of the book as he takes readers through the early years of his relationship with his wife and their family's ups and downs with "day to day" living. He illustrates his average, usual family with school and work activities, family vacations, holidays, home repairs, etc. Then, he settles into a

more chronological storytelling style as his wife's illness began to affect those "average family activities". Dunn's writing style is a little dry--though well formed--without a lot of emotion until moments of frustration and anger--and some peace--surfaced later in the book. The author needed to tell Sandy's story. So often, when someone suffers from a mental illness--outsiders cast quick blame toward the family for missing the signs or for "not doing anything" to help the sufferer. Sandy's story didn't occur in some rural, isolated area. It didn't occur decades ago. It happened recently--and in an area with modern health facilities and mental health programs. The author was put into a helpless position by a horribly, flawed system as he sought help for his family. And he is not alone. This memoir shines a light onto Sandy's story with the hope that increased awareness and realistic dialogue may prevent another family from suffering the pain of Sandy and her family. Would I recommend Sandy's Gift? Sandy's story should not have unfolded as it did. This memoir tells a frustratingly sad story. If you enjoy memoirs--and have an interest in the mental health "system"--and in mental health awareness--I would recommend this book. I received a copy of this book from the publisher or author. All opinions are my own.

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