

## **"Waltzing With Death", The Last Great Adventure in Love**

*There are two great adventures in life; one of these marks the beginning and the second, the end of every one of our lives. Not everyone thinks of these events as great adventures, but they most certainly are. This book is about that second big adventure – the very last one – that we are now sharing with everybody else who has ever lived and now wants to share vicariously with you. A team of fine doctors has concluded that I am actively in the process of dying and announced I will do so sooner, rather than later.*

April 4, 2011 (FPRC) -- William E. Mayer M.D. was an American hero, dedicated military officer, Assistant US Secretary of Defense and Assistant U.S. Surgeon General. A life filled with dedication, challenge and reward. He passed away February 10th, 2010, but not without leaving a treasure and legacy for all man kind. He chronicled, with his wife Heidi, his last chapter of life to the end. This is not a sad book; it is too filled with love, and is a clear-eyed, beautifully written book that demystifies the dying process and the care that is given so unselfishly by a loving spouse. This is truly the ultimate love story.

William E. Mayer, M.D., known as Bud to his friends, a brilliant psychiatrist, spent his life in public service serving in the Army, with the Marines in Korea as a Naval physician, and finally as a Rear Admiral in the Public Health Service. He was a major player in revolutionary changes in the treatment of the mentally ill; the medical approach to the disease of alcoholism; the unraveling of the methods used by Communist tyrants to enslave nearly a third of the earth's peoples, and working within the labyrinth of power that is the Pentagon, assuring that those who serve the nation in battle, if wounded, have better than a 97% chance to survive their wounds. The "Military Code of Conduct" that all military personnel commit to memory today when entering service was the product of years of research, interviews and psychological assessments of Korean Prisoners of War conducted by Dr. Mayer.

Heidi, Dr. Mayer's wife, is a trained psychiatric nurse in addition to being a regular R.N. They have worked closely together for more than forty years serving other people during difficult times in their lives. Since Dr. Mayer was a physician for more than sixty years, trained in neurology and psychiatry, they spoke very much the same language. The bulk of book, written by Heidi, is Heidi's thoughts, as the "care-taker", inasmuch as this can be and often is the more complex and demanding role for one of the two leading characters in this last of life's dramas. After every couple of chapters she produced, Dr. Mayer – the one who was about to depart –added a "postscript" giving his account of the period or events she has just chronicled, trying to tell you what it looks like from his role in it all. This, then, is a love story, a survivor's tale, a travelogue of sorts describing great and growing faith as we confront many challenges, and in the end, a great trip. It is, as so often true, the trip, rather than the destination, that matters most.

Available currently as an eBook from Amazon Kindle eBooks at:

<http://www.amazon.com/Waltzing-with-Death-ebook/dp/B004RR1KY2>

If you don't have a Kindle, you may download a FREE Kindle Reader software app. on the book page.

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