

DR. RICHARD MOIST

After receiving the gift of such spectacular photographs of nature from Melody Childers and Hope Kraus, it was obvious the front cover had to be absolutely stunning in order to showcase them properly. Therefore, throughout the writing process, the writer was constantly perusing her surroundings in hopes of stumbling onto the find of a lifetime. In fact, the journey felt a bit like antiquing; a hobby that makes the desire surface to happen upon a REAL jewel.

Consequently, as is often the case, a precious treasure will present itself in the most unlikely location; a fact that was true in this situation. Who would ever have thought the hunt would end in one's dentist office; unless the physician was extremely unusual?

Dear readers, unusual is too understated a title for Dr. Richard Moist! Let's substitute the word unusual with "unique". You see, every time patients arrive at his office for an appointment, they are in for a wonderful treat. They are offered the great pleasure of not only having their teeth taken care of professionally, but literally receiving this service surrounded by beautiful photographs; all taken by their one and only dentist, Dr. Richard Moist; a man who has been a camera buff since junior high school. The reception area and hallways are lined with beautifully displayed photographs from all over the country. In addition, as you are reclining in the dental chair, you are invited to feast your eyes on remarkable close up shots of everything from seahorses to ocean scenes.

Thus, one March day during a regularly scheduled appointment, "Light on A Hill" appeared in a very dramatic fashion as a latest addition to his gallery offerings. It literally seemed to speak to the writer as she was scanning the wall for his latest photographs. When he noticed her eyes glued to this particular one, he told her all about it with great pleasure. Then, remembering that she wrote devotional material for the elderly and was always looking for theme based photographs, he offered it to her on the spot, thus, the beautiful cover for "JESUS IN LIFE."

THANK YOU DR. RICHARD MOIST !

MELODY CHILDERS

Melody Childers, Assistant Activity Director at Christian Health Care & Rehab Center East, has a reputation for having a song in her heart and a melody in her soul; thus, an appropriate reflection of the first name she was given at birth.



Not only is this wonderful spirit noticed by friends, but strangers, as well. One only needs to walk down the hallway at the nursing home and observe the smiles on the residents' faces as she interacts with them, to realize how deeply her love for them penetrates on a daily basis. Her soft, gentle touch as she caresses them with her warmth, along with her sweet southern drawl, lets them know how much she values their existence. She truly is an advocate for the elderly.

When Melody learned the writer needed creative photographs of nature that would show how Jesus closely walks with us during the good and bad times, she went right to work. Sometimes, she could even be seen flat on the ground, stretched out on her back, just to get the right shot. At other times, she would squeeze into very tight quarters because something had caught her attention. Truly, she is a standout as it relates to positioning of objects in a picture.

Finally, Melody's enormous faith in her Creator must be brought to the attention of the reader. Jesus is everything to Melody! Throughout her career, it has been a very common occurrence to see her witnessing to the residents about her Lord. Sometimes, she is the first to give a resident his or her own Bible! Only God knows how many souls have been saved because of her prayer and actions.

THANK YOU MELODY FOR THE BEAUTIFUL PHOTOGRAPHS!

HOPE KRAUS

As we are treading down this walk called life taking pause and reflecting back on how events have unfolded, one will soon discover how deeply our Lord has been involved in the day to day occurrences of our existence. This was certainly the case when becoming acquainted with Hope Kraus for the first time.

As my cousin and I were busily taking photographs of the stained glass windows in a church where Hope's husband was a pastor, Hope entered the scene in a very dramatic manner. Upon hearing that people were in the sanctuary taking pictures, she felt led to make contact with two total strangers in a very unique way. As she walked down the aisle toward us, she asked which one was the writer of devotional material for the elderly. Then, continued by saying, "I think I have some photographs you may be interested in using for your work. I believe we are supposed to meet."

Do you have goose bumps, yet? I still feel them all over my body when telling others about the encounter with Hope. Do you agree that she was being Spirit led? Oh, yes! I believe we are all here at God's pleasure and for His purpose. Bless His holy name!

Consequently, later, as Hope and I spent time together at her kitchen table reviewing the many photographs of nature she had taken while on vacations with her family, it took only moments to identify them as a precious gift the elderly would cherish. They were absolutely alive with emotions that touched at the very core of the heart; feelings that older people are open to discussing with others.

Thus, after showing them to my editor, Carol Weiler, her reactions substantiated my initial feelings of their value. They literally evoked such memories in her mind that she expressed events in her life to accompany each photograph.

Thank you Hope for hearing the still small voice of the Holy Spirit and having the courage to take action. It is through your generous gift of sharing that this collection took wings.

THANK YOU HOPE KRAUS