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Filmmaker Provides Tools to Help Write Family Memoirs

How many times have persons said to their mother, father or grandparent, "You really should write your life story," only to be given one of many excuses: "I don't have the time;" "My life isn't all that interesting;" or "I am not a writer."

People who have the opportunity this summer to spend quality time with their families, some members of which may be aged or ailing, should realize the importance of recording parents' or grandparents' life stories, and not delaying, may become even clearer.

For many, capturing a parent's memoirs can seem like an overwhelming prospect. LA documentary filmmaker Loren Stephens is helping people to overcome these obstacles through her unique training seminars, lectures and coaching services, providing individuals with the tools they need to transform the stories of their parents or grandparents into unforgettable written memoirs.

Through her company Write Wisdom (www.writewisdom.com), she provides training seminars and techniques, which give individuals methods they need to unlock the process and find the words to convince their mother or father their life has meaning for them, and their memoirs will be a precious legacy for their family - a story that deserves to be told.

By sharing triumphs, tragedies, and their personal philosophy, Stephens believes ordinary people have the power to give their reader and their family solace, strength, hope and even the tools they need so they too can go on, no matter how great the challenge faced.

She teaches people how to accomplish this task on behalf of their parents and families, while also assisting those individuals interested in recording their own life story to craft a readable, compelling, entertaining, and moving memoir through an organized process that will advance the desire to tell their parents' or their unique story into a completed manuscript and self-published book.

Stephens teaches individuals how to assume the role of interviewer and memoir coach along with the practical mechanics of the interview process, how to seek out themes, turning points and heart's desires in a preliminary interview, how to incorporate details, historical background and archival materials into interviews, and to transform all research into a written memoir.

Her seminars and coaching incorporate interview skills teaching individuals how to avoid being intimidated by the interview process and the sensitive issues and revelations that emerge during the process. An individual can then move beyond the parent-child interaction, taking on the role of an interviewer who is a sensitive and nonjudgmental listener, as well as a historian, psychologist and detective.

Stephens always emphasizes while acting as a parent's ghostwriter, there is a need to remember a parent's memoir is really their life story and as such they have the right to see the world and their experiences through their own eyes and in their own way.

Information on this Write Wisdom program is available at 310-820-2052.