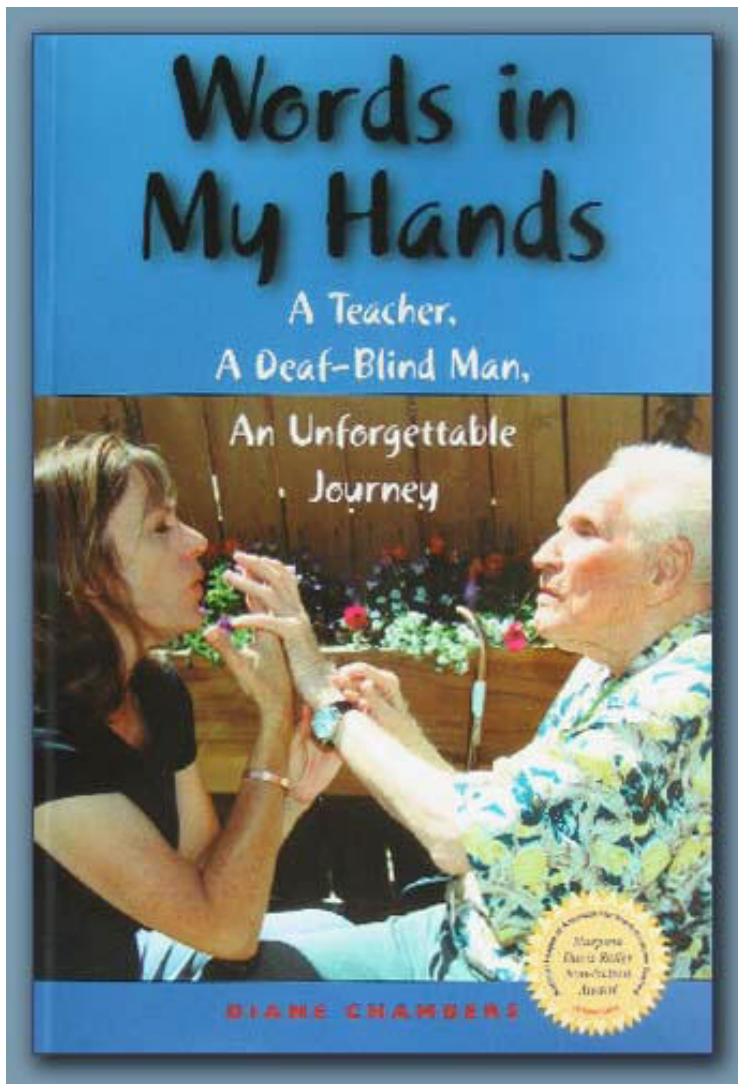


Book Review



“Words in My Hands” is a wonderful story that will give you strength and better perspective to carry on with life full force and be content and aggressive with all the obstacles you encounter.

The charming and highly capable girl pictured above is the author. She is a sign language teacher, interpreter, and writer amongst other things. The story does indeed take you on an incredible journey that you will not soon forget.

Bert Riedel is a deaf-blind man who has a very optimistic outlook on life. He doesn't let his challenges become unsolvable problems.

He was born in Chicago in 1911. He began having problems with his hearing and sight as early as 6 years old due to Usher Syndrome. Even though he had trouble hearing the teachers, he excelled academically and earned the honor of delivering the commencement speech at his high school graduation.

His hearing and sight got steadily worse; but he made it through college at the University of Chicago and also attended Dental School. He practiced Dentistry until age 43 when he couldn't see any longer. Then enrolled in a training program for the blind.

He learned Braille. He read books and newspapers in Braille. He excelled in music and became a great piano player. He memorized notes and stanzas reading them with a light and magnifying glass. He put music into his head while his ears still picked up a little sound.

After he gave up his dental practice his wife went to work as a schoolteacher. He acquired woodworking skills and made dining tables and chairs. He wrote articles for an Oral Hygiene magazine. He started a business selling Dental Supplies.

They spent their retirement years in Oakland, California. His wife had health problems of her own. After his wife died he went to live with his son and daughter-in-law in Conifer, Colorado. They did many things to enhance his life one of which was hiring a sign language teacher.

At the age of 86, completely deaf and blind, he began learning sign language. Diane Chambers, his wonderful teacher gave him a way to communicate once again. At home he had been using only a Power Braille as a means of communication. It was too heavy and bulky to carry around to converse with people in his world.

He was well educated, could speak intelligently, and encouraged many with his positive attitude and optimistic views. He discovered and promoted the Midas Touch in communicating with someone who is deaf and blind. It consisted of three principles: Identify yourself before speaking, Give the deaf/blind a mental picture of the immediate surroundings, and Maintain physical contact.

He had a full and wonderful life in spite of his challenges. He had many friends. People as young as high school age liked to spend time with him, take him places, and enjoy pleasurable activities. Early in his sign language learning experience he fell down some steps and broke his neck. Even that didn't put a damper on his zest for life or quench his radiant spirit.

Read about Bert's experience, witness his triumphs, and let your heart and mind be filled with power for everyday living. Not only the hearing impaired but all who read it will forevermore look at their own challenges from a different perspective. You can find the book at:

www.TheEarsOfYourHeart.com/LinktoUs.htm

www.InternationalEbookLibrary.com/linkpage.htm

www.ellexapress.citymax.com