

Mr. Sykes' Brother's Death Revealed

Glimpses of Eternity, Raymond Moody, MD

Mr. Sykes, a man with Alzheimer's, declined quite rapidly for his illness and age and died about a year after diagnosis. About two months before his death he lapsed into an almost vegetative state, as is typical of the last stage of Alzheimer's disease. He didn't know where he was nor did he recognize his wife or children. He could not talk coherently and gave no sign of understanding anything about his circumstances.

The day he died was different in a very eerie way. He sat up in bed and spoke as clear as a bell, talking just like anyone would, but not addressing us. He was looking upward with bright eyes and carrying on a conversation with 'Hugh'. He spoke loud and clear to Hugh, sometimes laughing but usually just conversing as though the two were sitting in a coffee shop having a chat.

The hospice workers assumed that Hugh was a deceased relative, but Mr. Sykes's wife cleared up that misperception, telling them that he was her husband's brother. She had just spoken to him a day or so earlier to tell him that her husband was on his deathbed. She said Hugh was alive and in good health. Shortly afterward it was learned that Hugh had keeled over with a fatal heart attack right about the time that Mr. Sykes miraculously came back to life.

The hospice workers then realized that Mr. Sykes was in communication with his newly deceased brother while he lay on his own deathbed.