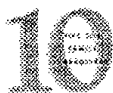


- Choose to **take charge** of your life, and don't let your loved one's illness or disability always take center stage.
- Remember to **be good to yourself**. Love, honor and value yourself. You're doing a very hard job and you deserve some quality time, just for you.
- **Watch out** for signs of depression, and don't delay in getting professional help when you need it.
- When people offer to help, **accept the offer** and suggest specific things that they can do.
- **Educate yourself** about your loved one's condition. Information is empowering.
- There's a difference between caring and doing. **Be open to technologies and ideas** that promote your loved one's independence.
- **Trust your instincts**. Most of the time they'll lead you in the right direction.
- Grieve for your losses, and then allow yourself to **dream new dreams**.
- **Stand up for your rights** as a caregiver and a citizen.
- **Seek support** from other caregivers. There is great strength in knowing you are not alone.



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