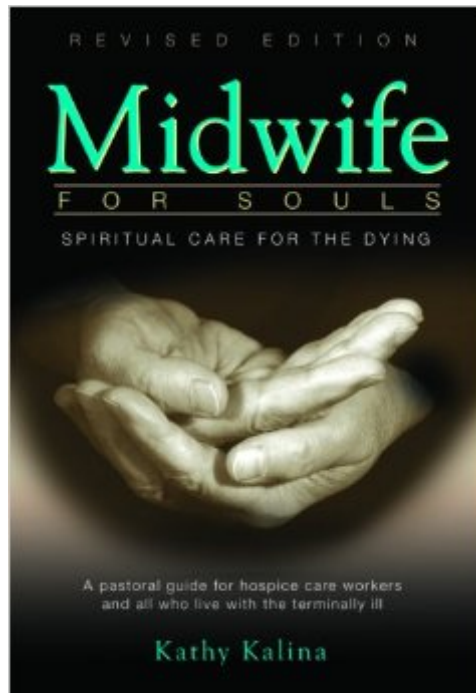


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# Midwife For Souls: Spiritual Care For The Dying



## Synopsis

The first edition of this text was so beloved that it sold over 30,000 copies now it's your turn to discover why! Kathy Kalina, describes the physical as well as spiritual signs of the dying process in *Midwife for Souls*. She offers years of qualified experience and spiritual wisdom that will inform and comfort caregivers and loved ones. Caregivers, friends, and family members often feel unsure of what to say or do as they care for the terminally ill. This book provides insight, showing how the support of one's Catholic faith and the power of prayer can be a guide in ministering to a dying person. This book is essential reading for anyone who accompanies others to the edge of life and helps in their birthing to eternal life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Kathy hits the mark as she takes us thru the dying individual's labor. The accuracy and compassion with which she brings this information to the reader is unsurpassed. It is an easily read book and the price is right! I would encourage all hospice professionals, physicians, nursing home employees and anyone who or has cared for the dying to read this insightful piece. For those who have cared for the dying, it can provide answers where questions still linger.

*Midwife for Souls* touched my three brothers and I deeply during the final days of our father's life. We were introduced to this book by a Hospice Chaplain who gave us permission to ask any questions that we wanted to about what to expect in the days ahead from moving dad from hospital to hospice care. Her references to this book of what to expect were just what I needed to hear.

Kathy's sensitivity, practical compassion and obvious calling to work with the dying was a source of deep strength and comfort to us all as we had not walked this way before. God used this book in helping us to address questions as a family that we do not normally talk about and to provide us with an environment of love and care to share our hearts. Her practical insights from more than 20 years of experience helped us move from the unknown to the known in how to prepare ourselves for the uncertain days ahead of us not only with Dad but four other deaths of parents within a period of two years. *Midwife for Souls* has been a constant resource for me as a Minister in walking with families who face the loss of a loved one both for those who profess faith and for those who do not. The sensitivity, prayer and comfort that Kathy offers in this book will help you and be a source of God's care to you. God promises to walk with us through every situation and challenge that we face and He will be with you as well. G. Stephen Goode

Our family used this book as a manual during the last 6 months of our father's life. We had never been through this process and did not really know what to expect. This book detailed everything for us and gave us insight into what our father was experiencing. I cannot tell you how valuable a guide it was and I heartily recommend it to everyone who is facing a similar situation. I have bought more than one copy to give to others because it was so central to our comprehension of the dying process. It also helped to eliminate a lot of fear that otherwise might have dominated us. Do not hesitate to buy this book if you or a loved one are caring for someone who is nearing death. I will forever be grateful that a dear friend gave it to us at our time of need.

In 1992, I was new to the world of hospice. I began working as a home health aide in a local hospice, and even though I had worked in long-term care and been trained, I was green, baby, real green! After the death of a twenty-something man with AIDS, I was feeling hopeless, helpless, and Kathy Kalina worked at this same hospice. She sat me down on a curb, and with patience, kindness and support, she provided me with the same kind of spiritual care and comfort, even hope that she offered the patients. I was a hospice caregiver for eight years, and became an award-winning care provider. Kathy wrote this book, "*Midwife for Souls*" while we were coworkers, and I can tell you that it was very useful to me, a layperson. When I was in San Antonio, accepting my award, there was a speaker on the roster. It was Kathy Kalina, and I did not miss her speech. After I left hospice, the information in this book has been useful to me during the deaths of my grandmothers. This book isn't over when you read the final page.

This book was an anchor during the most difficult time of our mother's dying. To be able to go to a resource that explained what was happening, both physically and spiritually, gave us a peace we couldn't have had otherwise. I've given this book to many since then.

Kathy Kalina is a gift, not only to those for whom she has cared in the hospitals and hospice settings, but to all of us who work with the terminally ill and are going through the dying process with family and friends. I learned about *Midwife* when a friend was dying from a brain tumor six years ago. The book helped his entire family -- wife and seven children -- and friends in a huge way. I have made it my personal ministry to purchase copies and have them ready for our residents (Incarnate Word Retirement Community) and for friends and, now, for my own family. God led Kathy, through her friend's dying experience, to us. I am so grateful to all involved. Susan T. Brotherman

Twelve years ago a friend mailed this book to me. As I read it by the bedside of my terminally ill son (cancer, age 22), I realized that the book was describing much of what he was experiencing. While it was sad, it was also enlightening and strangely comforting. This is the second time I have given this book as a gift -- once to a co-worker whose mother was in the last stages of her life and now to a friend who is a Hospice volunteer. I hope this review will encourage others going through an end-of-life situation to seek it out.

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