



*We Rage, We Weep*  
Alzheimer Foundation

From: **We Rage, We Weep; A Rural Caregiver's Experiences Coping with Alzheimer's Disease**

By June Fuller Moulton

### Chapter 10: 'Loss of initiative and reluctance to get involved'

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If I pushed hard enough... he would reluctantly focus his energy on the task. By this time, it had become increasingly difficult for him to do such things. He needed help, but he would never ask for it.

Mike offered to do all the haying the last year we spent on the farm, but his father would have none of it. Between Rusty's lack of initiative and his inability to change the equipment, haying season was a disaster. It seemed he'd really forgotten how to hay.

Even before Rusty and I were married, friends told me he was often called upon to champion a cause... Injustice, he felt, was an evil to be fought at every turn. As friends and neighbours will attest, if a cause was worth fighting for, Rusty could be counted on for support and leadership.

Then, after years of being active in community affairs, Rusty began to withdraw from public life. At first, I didn't recognize his reluctance to become involved for what it really was: a symptom of Alzheimer's Disease. I thought, as our neighbours probably did, that he was just tired of fighting.

"Let the younger folks take care of it," I often heard him say, and accepted his comment at face value. Now, of course, I know...

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