



*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

### Ch. 6: ' **Financial Abstractions**'

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*June writes:* "We conducted our financial transactions with cheques. There was little need for cash. I always ensured that Rusty had some money in his wallet but, not much. He'd joke about this to people we met, telling them with a chuckle that his wife never gave him any money. Shortly after the onset of Alzheimer's, Rusty turn the cheque book over to me. It was a gradual thing that I didn't even think much of at the time... but I was grateful the financial reins were transferred in this manner."

"We often bartered with neighbors, trading our help on a project for theirs on another. Sometimes we traded beef and pork from our farm for services, parts or equipment. The system worked well...

I recall well one example of Rusty's increasing difficulty with financial abstraction. It involved a hitch that Rusty wanted to add to the back of the skidder. This was not to be a trade, however. Rusty was adamant about having the work done, even if he had to pay dearly for it. The project for which the hitch was needed was not only far-fetched, but unlikely to be undertaken in the near future.

An expert was available to do the job, and my husband was determined. No amount of rational discussion regarding the cost of this venture would change his mind. Our debate became a bit heated.

One of us had to back down, and it was me. Despite my protests, the work was completed and the local tradesman paid, but to this day, that very fine hitch had never been used.

When Alzheimer's robs your spouse of his or her ability to manage money, assuming responsibility the household can be difficult... As my experiences with Rusty proved, people with Alzheimer's Disease no longer have the ability to make intelligent financial decisions."

Copies of the book can be purchased at  
<http://www.weragewweep.com/book.htm>

*Easing the financial burden of care giving – one family at a time*

1760 Kisber Ave. Victoria, BC V8P 2W7

(250) 920-9573

Charitable Registration BN: 80814 2277 RR0001

[www.weragewweep.com](http://www.weragewweep.com)