

We are so excited to share with you our latest newsletter written by our members with support from our volunteers at The Adler Aphasia Center in Maywood, NJ.

The Day I Saw JFK Speak!

By George F.

In 1960, when I was 12 years old, I marched from Englewood to the Teaneck Armory in New Jersey. I was going to see John F. Kennedy. I had a Nixon button hidden under my jacket. The armory was full. When I went there, I didn't know what to expect because I didn't know anything about Kennedy. After his speech, he won me over. Remember, I was 12 years old.

When he went on television to debate Nixon, Nixon was sweating a lot. Since I was 12 years old, my grandfather explained to me why he was sweating. It was because he was nervous. Kennedy was not sweating at all.

John F. Kennedy was elected President of the United States in November 1960. He won by electoral college. He was the youngest President.

It was November 22, 1963 and I was in the 9th grade. It was during Thanksgiving week and John F. Kennedy was assassinated. Most teachers in my school were crying. I was 15 years old. Everyone in my house was upset. He was like a family member.

Four years later during The Vietnam War, I joined the National Guard. The Teaneck Armory was where the base was located. I went full circle from seeing Kennedy there to joining the National Guard.



George F.

My Time in The Air Force

By Richard E.

I was in the U.S. Air Force in 1955 when I was 17 years old. I was stationed in El Paso Texas, which is on the border of Mexico. My job was to work on B-36 planes. When I began I went to upstate New York, then I went to Wichita Falls, TX, and then El Paso, TX.

When I was in NY state I had my Air Force training. Then I went to Wichita Falls to train to become a mechanic. When I was in El Paso I mostly worked on the airplanes. I spent 4 years in the Air Force.

While in El Paso we travelled on the weekends to Mexico, New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado.

Overall I didn't really love being in the Air Force but I did enjoy the sightseeing while I was there.



Richard E.

Maya Angelou

By Crystal B.

Given the chance, I would've liked to meet Maya Angelou.

My life was inspired by her adapt and adjust attitude. She confronted many obstacles and overcame them with a smile on her face and with her dignity and self respect intact. She died on May 28, 2014 and the world lost a treasure.

This poem captures an essence of this superwoman:



Crystal B.

Alone

(Written by Maya Angelou, 1928 – 2014)

Lying, thinking
Last night
How to find my soul a home
Where water is not thirsty
And bread loaf is not stone
I came up with one thing
And I don't believe I'm wrong
That nobody,
But nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Alone, all alone
Nobody, but nobody
Can make it out here alone.

There are some millionaires
With money they can't use
Their wives run round like banshees
Their children sing the blues
They've got expensive doctors
To cure their hearts of stone.

But nobody
No, nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Alone, all alone
Nobody, but nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Now if you listen closely
I'll tell you what I know
Storm clouds are gathering
The wind is gonna blow
The race of man is suffering
And I can hear the moan,
'Cause nobody,
But nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Alone, all alone
Nobody, but nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Yes, she is and will probably be a true hero to me.

Aladdin

By Alyson B.

On Christmas Eve, my family and I went to see Aladdin. Marc B. (my brother) and Judy K. (my sister-in-law), Jack B. and Matthew B. (my nephews) and the au-pair, Vicky R. started the day with many great sites. We went to: Rockefeller Center, Bryant Park market and of course, the Broadway show, Aladdin. I couldn't wait to see the show, especially with my nephews!

Based on the 1992 animated film, Disney's Aladdin tells the story. I won't give too much away, but a notable street urchin named Aladdin, and Princess Jasmine meet at a charming market. They have an instant connection. Aladdin is given a lamp and is granted three wishes. Yes, there was a genie, too! The genie, who was fantastic, sang most of the fairytale songs. Jack, Matthew, and I gave it four stars! It was excellent.

My parents, Carole B. and Marty B. met us at a lovely Italian restaurant for dinner.

It was a magical day. My family, my friend, and myself had a wonderful day in New York City!



Alyson B..

If you would like to receive our newsletter please submit your email address to:
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Aphasia Communication Groups (ACGs) There are nine ACGs throughout New Jersey!

For more information please contact Gretchen Szabo:
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