

GREG

O'BRIEN

Greg O'Brien has more than 35 years of newspaper and magazine experience as a writer, editor, investigative reporter, and publisher. He has contributed over the years, among other publications, to the Associated Press, UPI, *USA Today*, *The Arizona Republic*, *Boston Herald American*, *Boston Metro*, *New York Metro*, *Philadelphia Metro*, *The Providence Journal*, *Cape Cod Times*, *Boston Irish Reporter*, and *Boston Magazine* where he was senior writer. The author/editor of several books, O'Brien has published 17 books by other writers, and was a founding managing director of Community Newspaper Company, established in Boston. He lives in West Brewster on Cape Cod with his wife, Mary Catherine. The couple has three children: Brendan, Colleen and Conor.

O'Brien was diagnosed several years ago with Early Onset Alzheimer's after a horrific head injury "unmasked" a disease in the making, as doctors note. His maternal grandfather and his mother died of the disease. O'Brien also carries a marker gene for Alzheimer's.

Working off a cognitive reserve and journalistic grit, O'Brien, writing *On Pluto: Inside the Mind of Alzheimer's*, offers a first person perspective on how to fight this demon of a disease. *On Pluto* is not a misery memoir, it is a book about hope and faith, about the critical need for a cure and for better care for Baby Boomers, your children and your grandchildren who face a tidal wave of this disease in years to come.

O'Brien and his family also were subjects of a short film about Alzheimer's, produced by legendary film maker Steve James, *A Place Called Pluto*. The film, accessed online at livingwithalz.org, was screened at film festivals across the country, including the distinguished Tribeca Film Festival in New York.



O'Brien Family Mosaic | Far right, maternal grandfather George W. Brown, who died of Alzheimer's; Below Left Snapshot, parents Virginia and Frank O'Brien; Below Right Snapshot, Virginia O'Brien, who died from Alzheimer's, holding her son Greg, Rye Beach, Westchester County, NY, 1953; Center, the O'Brien siblings on the back deck at Cape Cod cottage, from left to right. — back row: Greg O'Brien, Maureen Maresca, Tim O'Brien, Lauren Anderson; bottom row: Andy O'Brien, Bernadette Thompson, Justine O'Brien, and Paul O'Brien.