GRANDMA'S BIO: Bonnie Ross-Parker

In August of 2002, Bonnie (Grandma) created The Joy of Connecting®, dba Xperience ConnectionsTM, a program supporting professional women nationwide. After having over 3,500 women in her home and reaching thousands of women nationwide, Xperience ConnectionsTM continues its growth.

Bonnie is the author of several books including *Walk In My Boots: The Joy of Connecting*, shifting your consciousness to share yourself with others: *Y.O.U.* ~ *Set A High Standard for Being Human* showing how our journey impacts others and the journey of others impacts our own.

She is also a contributing author to *What We Talk About When We're Over Sixty* by Sherri Davis and Linda Hughes and *Atlanta's Real Women* by Linda Hughes and Christine Martinello and several others where she describes how a mother copes with the loss of a child. Additionally, she is a professional speaker who focuses on effective networking for effective results.

Her most recent e-book, *Discovery and Recovery: A Shared Journey* chronicles her 8-month challenge with Breast Cancer taking the reader through the entire process from diagnoses thru chemo, surgery, radiation and recovery. It is available on-line at no fee. www.bonnierossparker.com/discovery-and-recovery/download.php

Bonnie has received numerous awards. Among them, the Athena International Award Program, the Toastmaster's International Communication and Leadership Award, and she was also recognized as a Georgia woman of influence by The Woman's Leadership Exchange of New York.

In May, 2010, Bonnie was recognized as a distinguished business woman – part of the Princess Diana Tour/Atlanta. In November, 2014 Bonnie was acknowledged by *North Point Magazine* (Atlanta) as being 1 of 11 recipients to be featured in their cover story: "Savvy & Successful – Our Annual Tribute to Local Inspiring Women"

In December, 2014, The Atlanta Business & Entertainment Exchange presented her with the "Leadership Award" with the inscription: "Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the Atlanta Community". In November, 2015, Xperience Connections was one of 5 businesses nominated for Business of The Year by the Vinings Business Association.

While she has faced and overcome many challenges, Bonnie Ross-Parker has never lost her focus and enthusiasm for life. She believes that the possibilities are endless for those who value and nurture relationships.

Bonnie is a working example of what is possible when we focus, take action and chart our own course. She has spent her entire life encouraging women to do just that. She continues to be a tireless mentor of women helping them to maximize collaborative vs. competitive relationships. Her commitment to her husband, Phil, (Grandpa) is an ever present and unconditional love affair. Sharing their lives, supporting one another's activities and growing old together are the key factors that make life the joy it continues to be.

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Grandpa's Email: philgaryparker@mac.com