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FOR RELEASE

## Local Author co-authors book based on Alzheimer's, True-life Love story

*Where Did Howdy Go?* will make you laugh, cry, but most importantly,  
it will make you think carefully about your care options for elderly loved ones

**Delaware, OH** – Dr. John Becker made a promise to his mother, Ruth Weidman, before she passed away. He promised to make sure the love story between Ruth and her husband, Howard Weidman was told. It's more than just your idyllic love story; it extends into a decade long ordeal with the trials and tribulations of Alzheimer's disease. *Where Did Howdy Go?* is that promise, printed and published.

The story follows Ruth (known to her family and friends as Rusty) as she meets and falls in love with the "one true love of her life," Howard (Howdy) Weidman. After 40 years of a beautiful life together, Howdy begins experiencing symptoms of Alzheimer's. Over the next ten years, Rusty courageously struggles with the ever changing conditions many Alzheimer's patient's experience. Her refusal to put Howdy in a nursing facility takes its toll on her, however despite the ups and downs, Rusty's love for her husband, lover and best friend go by untouched and unshaken.

Throughout the ten year ordeal, Rusty kept careful notes of Howdy and her daily struggles as he gradually lost his battle with the disease. These notes with her recollection of memories helped her write *Where Did Howdy Go?* It is her first book (post mortem) and was co-authored by her son, Dr. John Becker who is an award-winning Children's book author.

Alzheimer's is seventh-leading cause of death and it is estimated by the Alzheimer's Association that 5.3 million people in the United States are living with the disease. The numbers are climbing, as every 70 seconds, someone develops Alzheimer's.

*Where Did Howdy Go?* is published by AuthorHouse in February 2010} and is available in paperback for \$14.95 or as an electronic book for \$4.50. You can purchase the book online at Barnes & Noble, Amazon and on Dr. John Becker's website, [www.johnbeckerauthor.com](http://www.johnbeckerauthor.com).

**Images, Preview Books and Interviews with Dr. John Becker are available upon request.**

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Dr. John E. Becker is an award-winning author of 28 books and numerous magazine articles. He coauthored a college textbook, *Perceptual Motor Learning Theory and Practice* in 1974. His nonfiction children's book, *Wild Cats Past & Present*, was named to VOYA's (Voice of Youth Advocates) Nonfiction Honor List in the year 2009. Dr. Becker's other books for children include *Frenemies for Life*, *Mugambi's Journey*, the fifteen book *Returning Wildlife* series, and eight *Seedling* books for beginning readers. Dr. Becker is a graduate of The Ohio State University, a former elementary school teacher, college professor, administrator at the Columbus Zoo, and he worked for many years in the field of wildlife conservation. Dr. Becker is a full-time author living in Delaware, Ohio, and he also teaches writing at the Thurber Writing Academy in Columbus, Ohio. All of his books are listed on his website at [www.johnbeckerauthor.com](http://www.johnbeckerauthor.com).