Spokane Authors & Self-Publishers Member Web-Page



Elinor Young

Elinor Young was nine years old when she first thought about working overseas. Weakened by Polio as a child, it seemed like an impossible dream. But in 1973 Elinor reached Papua, Indonesia, to begin linguistic, translation, and community development work among the primitive Kimyal people of Papua, Indonesia. During her nearly 17 years there, the Kimyal tribe gave Elinor the name Bad Legs, saying her bad legs were a symbol of God's love for them. Now retired, Elinor writes, speaks, mentors, and recently published her memoir. She was our quest speaker in July 2019 and again in June 2022.

Visit Elinor at: www.elinoryoung.com

Continue below for information about Elinor's books. (Includes Amazon™/Kindle™ ASIN codes)

Running on Broken Legs: My Journey to Joy

B09XFDWC4X 1646455746



Take undersized five-year-old farm girl Elinor, give her the polio that not only cripples her but also nearly kills her, then give her an impossible dream. In her childhood and again as a college student she rebels against the plan. Finally, she embraces the dream, and it leads Elinor to one of the most primitive, rugged places on earth and to a life that brawny international explorers would envy.

For nearly eighteen years Elinor deals with murdering tribal people, a devastating earthquake and the relief efforts that follow, joys, triumphs, depression, peace, life-threatening illnesses, recovery, and friendship with the Kimyal tribal people, whom she comes to deeply respect and love. The Kimyal people give her the name Bad Legs, which to them reflects how her weak body shows them God's love. Finally, the late effects of Elinor's original polio force her to leave the place and people that her heart has embraced. She must find a way to say goodbye.

In typical Kimyal fashion, Elinor tells a story to picture a profound truth: our weaknesses can be the conduit of strength beyond our own.



Spokane Authors & Self-Publishers

Page updated 06/22/2022 dam

©2022 www.spokaneauthors.org