

*Driving Miss Norma: One Family's Journey Saying "Yes" to Living* by Ramie Liddle and Tim Bauerschmidt

Discussion Questions from <https://www.missnorma.com/the-book>

Tim and Ramie had difficulty with having the end-of-life conversation with Tim's parents. What has your experience been with your loved ones? Have you put it off? What would make it easier to undertake?

Have you been a caregiver for an elderly person? How do/did they approach their end-of-life? From their examples, what would you do differently? What do you think about caregiving nomadically?

If you received a terminal diagnosis would you want treatment? How aggressive? If you had no family to help and inspire you, would your decision be different? Would your age matter? Have you clearly shared your wishes with your loved ones?

Tim, Ramie and Norma left without cleaning the house and only took two throw cushions out of practicality, rather than attachment. If you were leaving like Norma was, what would you take with you? What role do possessions play in your life?

Ringo was an important part of Norma's life while in the RV. Do you think that pets offer health benefits to their humans? How did Ringo help Norma? Tim and Ramie?

Ramie and Tim struggled to learn what might be on Norma's "bucket list." Do you have a bucket list? What's on your bucket list? Would you do anything differently if you knew you had a certain amount of time?

Did reading *Driving Miss Norma* bring back memories you made with your family? Are there untold stories you would like to share or explore with your loved ones before it's too late?

Spending time with Miss Norma taught Tim and Ramie to slow down and enjoy the moment. Are there times when you need that reminder, too? What is your favorite way to slow down?

Norma seemed to become more extroverted and open to new experiences throughout her journey. Do you think that this was due to her advancing age, her terminal diagnosis, or was Norma always an outgoing person but never given the opportunity to share that side of her personality?

We all transition eventually. How does the reality of death influence how you approach your daily life? How did Norma approach her daily life knowing that death was imminent?

What was your greatest take-away from Miss Norma's story? What would you have enjoyed the most if you were part of the journey?