

Tuesdays with Morrie Introduction

Tuesdays with Morrie is a memoir. This book was written by a successful, busy sports writer for the *Detroit Free Press*. Albom happens to catch a glimpse of his college professor on *Nightline* and his last class from his professor begins. Touching and insightful, a book students appreciate.

Tuesdays with Morrie Background

About Morrie Schwartz

Morrie Schwartz wrote his own epitaph: "A Teacher to the Last." Born December 20, 1916, he graduated from New York's City College, and won a fellowship to the University of Chicago, where he earned both a master's and Ph.D. in sociology. In 1959, he began a lifelong career teaching sociology at Brandeis University.

He continued teaching classes after he was diagnosed with ALS at the age of seventy-six, incorporating what he was learning about the meaning of life as he faced impending death. When ABC-TV's "Nightline" producer heard of his classes, Ted Koppel flew to Boston for the first of three interviews with Morrie. The shows were among the highest rated ever for "Nightline."

Morrie Schwartz's final "class" with Mitch Albom was the week of his death. Morrie was seventy-nine. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, sons, Rob and Jon, and hundreds of former students whose lives he influenced.

About Mitch Albom

Mitch Albom is an Emmy Award-winning broadcaster, an award-winning columnist for the *Detroit Free Press*, and a bestselling author. His *Free Press* column has won the Associated Press Sports Editors Award as the best column in the United States eleven times in the past twelve years. His work has also appeared in national publications such as *GQ*, *The New York Times*, and *Sports Illustrated*. He hosts two nationally syndicated radio shows from WJR-AM, Detroit. On ESPN-TV, Albom heads a weekly panel on "Prime Monday," and is a regular on "The Sports Reporters." His previous books include *Bo*, *Fab Five*, and four collections of his columns. He lives in

Michigan with his wife, Janine.

http://www.randomhouse.com/resources/bookgroup/tuesdaysmorrie_bgc.html

What's a memoir? Explain in your own words.