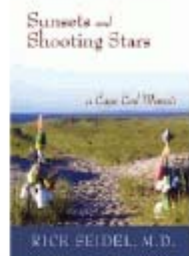


*Sunsets and Shooting Stars: A Cape Cod  
Memoir* by Rick Seidel

Cold Tree Press, 2007 (2007)  
Hardcover

Reviewed by Mary Ann Smyth



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Rick Seidel is a gastroenterologist with a passion for Cape Cod. Though living in Texas now, as a child he lived in Northwestern Pennsylvania and often traveled for a week of glorious vacations with his father, mother, brother and two sisters in Cape Cod.

The delight he has found in his reminiscences transports me back to my own summers as a young child and then as an adult with my own children in Cape May, New Jersey. I did enjoy Dr. Seidel's account. His memories are very personal, with real names and places used.

His father had a lot of moxie to start out, at 3:00 am, with his family and a packed boat - that he hauled by a very old truck - to make an eight or nine hour drive to their destination in Truro. I think, from the doctor's account, that the truck kept going because it feared his father's wrath if it should ever break down.

As I read about the antics and endless fishing that was done, I wondered about the women involved. Did they ever yearn for a different kind of vacation - one that required a lot less elbow grease and allowed a lot more relaxation? If they complained, it is not mentioned in the memoir.

Overall, if you like fishing, this is the book for you. If you don't, perhaps you should give it a pass. *Sunsets and Shooting Stars* is quickly read but not quickly forgotten as readers' memories blossom forth to bring smiles to faces and questions such as: *Do you remember when ...?*

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