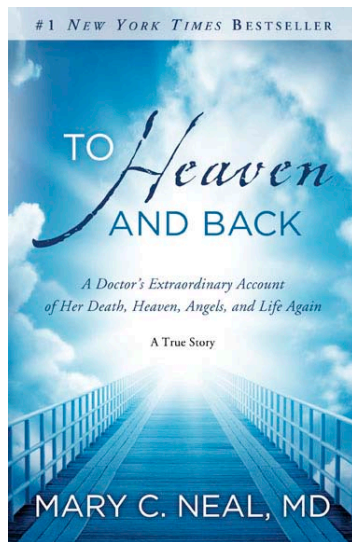


For Immediate Release
WaterBrook Press
a division of Random House, Inc.

Beverly Rykerd, Publicity Manager
719-268-1935
brykerd@randomhouse.com

***To Heaven and Back* by Mary C. Neal, M.D.**
Self- Published Phenomenon Now #1 New York Times Bestseller
A Spinal Surgeon's Dramatic Account of her Death and Visit to Heaven



Colorado Springs, Colo. - *To Heaven and Back: A Doctor's Extraordinary Account of Her Death, Heaven, Angels and Life Again: A True Story* by Dr. Mary C. Neal reached the #1 spot on the New York Times bestseller list within weeks of its May 24, 2012 release by WaterBrook Multnomah, a division of Random House, Inc. The book contains a dramatic first-hand account by an orthopaedic spinal surgeon of her accidental death by drowning, visit to heaven, and subsequent return to physical life. The title has become a national word-of-mouth phenomenon since it was originally self-published in November 2011.

Consumer demand for *To Heaven and Back* has been spurred by strong national media interest in Dr. Neal's story. In the weeks before the book's release, she appeared on Fox News Channel's "Fox and Friends," the #1 rated cable news morning show, and on "Live with Megyn Kelly." Dr. Neal also shared her story during a two-hour interview on the nationally syndicated radio show "Coast to Coast AM," and was a subject in Jay Leno's monologue on the May 9th, 2012 edition of "The Tonight

Show," when he lightheartedly made a reference to Mary Neal's book and the possibility of life after death for the NBC Network. Within days, the self-published edition of *To Heaven and Back* was ranked #5 at BarnesandNoble.com and #29 at Amazon.com.

In *To Heaven and Back*, Dr. Neal recounts how she drowned on a remote South American river after her kayak was caught under a waterfall for almost fifteen minutes. During this time, Dr. Neal was held and comforted by God before spiritual beings appeared and brought her to heaven. She conversed with angels and, despite her overwhelming desire to stay in heaven, was told that she had more work to do on earth and must return to her body. She returned, in part, to tell her remarkable story to others and help them find their way back to God.

Said Michael Palgon, Executive Vice President, Deputy Publisher, Crown Publishing Group: "*To Heaven and Back* is an extraordinary story of inspiration and hope, one that sheds light on some of life's important questions, including 'What happens when we die?' 'Why are we here?' and 'Why do bad things happen to good people?' We are thrilled to partner with Dr. Neal to bring the story of her extraordinary journey to readers who want to know more about her personal experience of heaven, her encounters with angels, and her miraculous return to life."

For more information, visit waterbrookpressroom.com or drmaryneal.com/.



PRESS RELEASE

from WaterBrook Press

For Immediate Release
WaterBrook Press
a division of Random House, Inc.

Beverly Rykerd, Publicity Manager
719-268-1935
brykerd@randomhouse.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mary C. Neal, M.D. is an orthopaedic surgeon. She studied at the University of California at Los Angeles School of Medicine, completed her orthopaedic residency at the University of Southern California and is fellowship trained as a spinal surgeon. She is the former Director of Spine Surgery at the University of Southern California and is a founding partner of Orthopedic Associates of Jackson Hole. Her after-life experience has been featured on national media including *WGN*, *Dr. Oz*, and *Fox and Friends*. She has served as a church elder, on several non-profit organization boards, and created the Willie Neal Environmental Awareness Fund. Dr. Neal lives with her family in Jackson Hole, WY.



Heaven / Christian Life / Death, Grief, Bereavement / Autobiography
ISBN 978-0-307-73171-5 • Trade Paperback • 240 Pages • \$14.99 U.S./\$17.99 Canada
eBook: ISBN 978-0-9848192-1-8