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**My Thoughts:  
Hubert Schwyzer**  
1935 - 2006

As interviewed and transcribed by Life Chronicles

*Hubert Rudolf Georg Schwyzer, Professor Emeritus, Department of Philosophy, University of California at Santa Barbara, died of stomach cancer on June 22, 2006.*

***Has being a philosophy professor helped you throughout what you are dealing with now?***

“I don’t know, I’ve never thought that I’m that kind of a philosopher. But some of it might have rubbed off. Some of the philosophers we read, particularly the ancients like Plato himself – one of the greatest of all the philosophers – believed that philosophy makes you philosophical; makes you accept life philosophically, ultimately. Not many of us are that much sympathetic to Plato, but I think I found that especially the last couple of weeks, I am perhaps more philosophical than I believed I would be.

“I used to think that if I got cancer I would have the horrors. I’d think, “Oh my God, I’m being consumed by some awful thing inside me.” But since it’s come, I haven’t thought that. I’ve been living day-by-day, I’ve been pretty tranquil.

“While knowing and having been told that I only have a few weeks left, sometimes I wonder if I’m taking it seriously. Or, if I’m play-acting? We’ve got just a few weeks left, hahaha...what do we do? How do we behave? On the other hand, I’m not playing with any alternatives. As if I’m really thinking “Oh yeah, so they say.” I don’t know. I’ve been feeling well for the most part, which is very fortunate. If I start getting pain and a lot of discomfort and a lot of weakness, I can’t predict what I’m going to be like. My family’s with me and nothing’s more wonderful than this.

“You know this is the amazing thing ... I’m really very, very happy now in my present state. Because of Carol and Hugo coming up, Pip being here, and Elizabeth being here, and Diana being here. I mean...have I left anybody out? I’m very happy and playing music.”

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