

2025 Forget-Me-Not Gala
Monday, June 9 — Cipriani
42nd Street
Linda LaGorga, Gala Chair

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Dear Friends,

I am honored to have been selected as the **Connect2Vision and Culture Honoree** at the upcoming **29th Annual CaringKind Forget-Me-Not Gala on Monday, June 9th** at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City.

At first I was reticent about accepting this honor, but then I thought about it, and realized how many people I know have who have suffered from dementia, or are now in early stages of this, and how many people I know who have Alzheimer's or have passed away from this hideous disease. All were active, smart on top of their game...and then suddenly no more. I have seen firsthand how devastating an Alzheimer's and related dementias journey can be through mentors and friends in my life, and so I agreed to get involved and help create change, to help remove stigma and to advocate for those impacted.

For over 46 years, CaringKind, a 501(c)(3) organization, has been the leading expert and trusted partner for Alzheimer's and related dementia caregiving. They create, promote, and deliver comprehensive and compassionate care and support services offered free of charge for individuals and families impacted by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias nationwide. CaringKind believes in the power of caregiving and seeks a world where everyone dealing with dementia has the support they need, when they need it, where they need it.

The Forget-Me-Not Gala is CaringKind's most important and largest fundraising event of the year. Corporate, healthcare and community leaders and tastemakers as well as families impacted by Alzheimer's and related dementias come together to help us achieve our goal – this year of raising \$1.5 million. Today with over 7 million Americans currently living with dementia and over 11 million caregiving for someone with dementia – which is projected to double by 2050 – the time is NOW to expand the net of care. All proceeds from the Gala will go directly to support their cornerstone suite of programs and services offered in multiple languages free of charge, such as their Early-Stage evidence-based programs like Cognitive Stimulation Therapy offered nationwide for those living with dementia, the CaringKind Helpline, and in-person and virtual support groups, along with supporting new initiatives including their new Connect2Living Center.

Please join me and the lifechanging work CaringKind is doing by visiting the Gala website at www.ckgala.org either as a Gala guest or as a Gala sponsor. And please share this opportunity with your network as an opportunity to collectively create positive change for those who need it most. Your help supports CaringKind's ongoing commitment to building the foundation of care that's essential in serving the growing number of families, patients, and caregivers in need and ensuring no one feels alone on an Alzheimer's and related dementias journey.

Thank you for your support during this special evening of making a difference.

Sincerely,

Fern Mallis
2025 Forget-Me-Not Gala Honoree

