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## When Alzheimer's Hits at 40: Job, Kids and Dementia

Continued from Page One fore a new generation of drugs makes it to market.

Now 51 years old, Mr. Kammerer, like many Alzheimer's patients, had no history of the disease in his family. He grew up on the north shore of Long Island, where he stood out at school for his talent with numbers. After attending college at the State University of New York-Albany, he got a job on Wall Street.

Mr. Kammerer met his future wife, Kathy, in 1983 at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, the investment bank where they both worked. Kathy, who had also grown up on Long Island, recalls not quite believing it when the handsome, funloving man with thick brown hair she was dating asked her to marry him.

They wed in 1991. Soon they had a son and two daughters, and Mrs. Kammerer stopped working to care for them at their home in Long Island's Massapequa Park. Mr. Kammerer commuted into Manhattan.

Mr. Kammerer worked long hours in the office, his wife and former colleagues recall. But he also had a lively and self-deprecating sense of humor. Mrs. Kammerer said he was the life of the party. "He always had a cigar hanging out of his mouth," she says.

He had "a blue-collar mentality in a white-collar job," says Martin Jaffe, chief operating officer and co-founder of Silvercrest Asset Management Group LLC, who worked with Mr. Kammerer for 15

Back home, Mr. Kammerer gave his children silly gifts like plastic glasses with fake moustaches and took his wife out dancing on date nights. He whisked the family away on surprise vacations to Florida. In the summers, he loved to barbecue and organized impromptu family Brian Kammerer slumber parties under the stars, his daughter Kate, now 13, recalls.

In 1998, Mr. Kammerer started complaining of ringing in his ear. He sometimes felt dizzy, Mrs. Kammerer recalls. Other times he gave his wife a look as though he didn't understand what she had just said. The Kammerers sought out a neurologist, who suggested Mr. Kammerer get a magnetic resonance imaging scan of his brain.

When the MRI results came back, they didn't look normal, the neurologist told the Kammerers. The doctor was unable to give them a diagnosis, however: He couldn't say whether there was something wrong, Mrs. Kammerer recalls, or whether Mr. Kammerer's brain had always looked that way.

Had they even suspected Alzheimer's, it would have been difficult to diagnose. Doctors look for patients or their families to report a collection of symptomssuch as forgetfulness, social withdrawal and difficulty planning or finishing complex tasks—that worsen over years. (The dizziness and ringing ears Mr. Kammerer experienced aren't generally considered symptoms.) Currently, Alzheimer's can be diagnosed conclusively only by autopsy.

Mrs. Kammerer recalls staring at the picture of her husband's brain. "This is our future," she thought. She wondered whether she would need to get a job again should her husband be unable to work. The idea of going back to Wall Street terrified her, she says.

The Kammerers agreed that until they knew what was happening, life should go on as usual. They said nothing to the children. Around friends and colleagues, they kept quiet about their concerns, fearing Mr. Kammerer would lose his job if word of his symptoms leaked out. "I lost a lot of sleep," Mrs. Kammerer says.

One day in 1999, Mrs. Kammerer grew more alarmed: Her husband couldn't remember the word "sneaker." Soon after that, he started saying things like "my brain is just not functioning right here," Mrs. Kammerer recalls. That year, at age 40, Mr. Kam-

merer was named a Chief Operat-

ing Officer of DLJ Mutual Funds, a Donaldson Lufkin division. His new responsibilities included presentations to the board of a Wall Street firm of 11,300 em-Within a year, Mr. Ka-

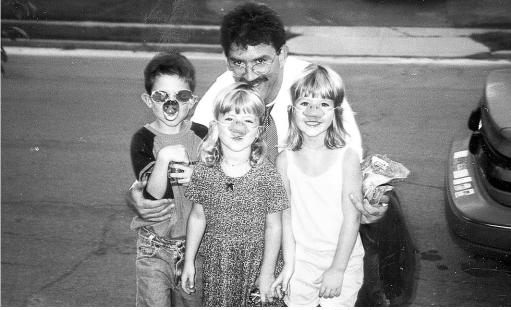
mmerer was struggling more often with words, a symptom of the disease called aphasia. But, always gifted at math, he showed no sign of having trouble with numbers, a

key part of his job. To compensate, he worked into the night, when colleagues weren't around. He increasingly called his wife from work, reading

her memos he had written to

make sure they made sense. Co-workers say they had no idea what he was going through. Debbi Avidon, who worked for Mr. Kammerer from 1993 to 2001 and is now at J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., says she noticed Mr. Kammerer's longer hours but attributed it to his workaholic tendencies. "He was always very diligent and thor-

ough," Ms. Avidon says Mr. Kammerer also withdrew level financial-industry jobs that wrong with my wife." They locked responsibility to support the fam- just taken away," she says.



Brian Kammerer experienced dizziness and ringing in his ears in 1998, a year before this picture with his three children.

socially. The cigar-smoking stopped. So did social drinking.

Mr. Jaffe, Mr. Kammerer's former boss for much of his time at DLJ, says that had he known about Mr. Kammerer's memory problems, he's not sure what he'd have done. "I would hope we would take the high road," he says. He would have been concerned about whether the condition hampered Mr. Kammerer's command over important numbers, he says, which might have meant a change in job responsibilities. "There probably are many iobs you can do well with that malady," he says.

In late 2000, Swiss banking giant Credit Suisse Group acquired DLJ. As is often the case in takeovers, Credit Suisse cut some of DLJ's top executives. Mr. Kammerer lost his job in June 2001. His severance package included two years of salary and a year of health insurance. He took the rest of the summer off and played a lot

By then, Mrs. Kammerer says, her husband didn't recognize certain people and couldn't name some objects. He became good at covering, smiling if he didn't know what he was being asked or calling people whose names he'd forgotten "sweetie" or "buddy."

Mr. Kammerer didn't consider leaving the work force. His kids were all under the age of 12. There were many more years of privateschool and college tuition to pay.

But he began to lower his sights. Returning home from a positive interview for a prestigious job—running a European company's U.S. operations—he told his wife: "You know, Kathy, I don't think I can do this."

Instead, he sought out lowe

wouldn't require him to work closely with others. He wrote out cue cards to take with him on interviews and changed the topic when he didn't understand what an interviewer had asked.

In 2002, he landed a position as chief financial officer at a small hedge fund, called Clipper Trading Associates, a position that involved managing the fund's accounting and administration but not making trading decisions.

During this period, Mr. Kammerer visited specialist after specialist, his wife recalls. Suspecting stress was behind his symptoms, he sought out a psychotherapist and was prescribed antidepressants. He took antibiotics for six months to treat what doctors thought might be Lyme disease.

His eldest child, Patrick, noticed that his father seemed particularly absent-minded. One day, Patrick says, he prank-called Mr. Kammerer at his new job and told him he was calling from "Clipper Hedge and Grass Trimming." Though father and son had often teased each other this way, Mr. Kammerer didn't recognize his son's voice or realize it was a joke, Patrick recalls.

One evening in 2003, after yet another test, a type of brain scan called a positron emission tomography, Mr. Kammerer's physician called. Sitting in their bedroom, Mr. and Mrs. Kammerer got on separate phones to listen in.

"Mrs. Kammerer, I have some terrible news," she remembers the doctor saying. "I believe your husband has Alzheimer's."

Mrs. Kammerer dropped to her knees. She recalls that her husband didn't understand what was have to hold on, something's

the bedroom door so the children couldn't walk in. After Mrs. Kammerer explained to her husband that he had been diagnosed with a form of dementia, they sat quietly. "Your life kind of flashes before your eyes," she says.

Mr. Kammerer had private disability insurance, but he relied on his job at Clipper for the family's health insurance. Another significant concern was the cost of the children's private school education. Mr. Kammerer decided to work as long as possible.

In 2004, Clipper announced it was shutting down.

The fund closed, it said at the time, because its potential risks in the market were outweighing the rewards it was offering its investors. Two of the fund's partners, David Dahlberg and Scott Simon, say they were aware that Mr. Kammerer had been having health issues, specifically "inner ear" problems. "It wasn't something that was affecting his job performance," said Mr. Dahlberg. He added that had the partners known about Mr. Kammerer's memory difficulties, he's not sure how the professional relationship would have changed.

"That's a difficult position for an employer to be in in any business, let alone our business, where short-term memory is important," said Mr. Dahlberg.

By then, Mrs. Kammerer says, it was clear to her and her husband that he had deteriorated too much to try to find another job.

Mrs. Kammerer went back to work as an office assistant in the District Court in Hempstead, N.Y., providing the family with a small income and health insurance. His going on and told the doctor, "You wife's return to work distressed Mr. Kammerer, who saw it as his

The Kammerers also filed for Social Security disability benefits. The attorney they hired to help them with the massive paperwork told them the process could take up to 18 months, panicking Mrs. Kammerer. But they caught a break: Their application was approved in five weeks. Mr. Kammerer's private disability insurance policy, which he took out in the '90s, added several hundred dollars to their monthly Social Security payout and Mrs. Kammerer's court salary.

The Kammerers organized one last family trip to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. They told Patrick about his father's condition before leaving, but waited until later to tell the younger children, Colleen, now 14, and Kate.

At the end of 2006, the Kammerers transferred their assets to Mrs. Kammerer's name to shield their estate from the treatment costs Mr. Kammerer is likely to face as the disease makes its slow progress. Mrs. Kammerer says her husband's care costs \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year in co-payments on top of what their insurance covers. The costs are likely to escalate: Mr. Kammerer stays home while his wife is working and the kids are at school. In-home care, or a nursing home, would cost more. Mrs. Kammerer says she hopes that day is still years away.

Mrs. Kammerer wrestles with when to take responsibilities away from her husband. He still has his driver's license, though he doesn't drive anymore. The plan is to have him sit in the passenger seat and supervise Patrick, now 16, as he learns to drive this year.

Ten years after he first complained of a buzzing in his ears and five years after he was diagnosed, Mr. Kammerer spends most of his days sitting in a club chair in his bedroom and working intricate number puzzles. Two days a week, he attends a program for adults in their 30s through 50s who have dementia, where his favorite activity is dancing.

His math skills remain sharp, but he has trouble recognizing neighbors he has known for two decades. Rather than fiddle with objects he no longer understands, such as the stove, he ignores them. Sometimes, he takes a cab to a nearby golf course without telling anyone and hitches a ride back from a stranger, which unnerves Mrs. Kammerer.

Mrs. Kammerer says the most difficult aspect of her husband's disease is that the couple used to be a team, but now she has to make the decisions on her own.

"We had a partnership and built a life together, and it was

## In New History of NSA, Its Spies' Successes Are [Redacted]

Continued from Page One report and plans to publish his own NSA history next year. "Instead what you're left with is a fair to middling picture of this

agency." The report's author, Thomas R. Johnson, declined to say how the edited history compares with the original version But intelligence experts say it's common for failures to become more public than successes because such breakthroughs can be too good to reveal. Even making older successes public may reveal sources, hint at continuing intelligence efforts, or hurt diplomatic relations. When NSA declassified the government's World War II code-breaking activities, it faced criticism from State Department colleagues who were upset the U.S. had spied on allies, says Mr. Aid, a visiting fellow at the National Security Archives at George Washington University.

NSA, once dubbed "No Such Agency," was created in a secret executive order in 1952 to intercept electronic communications through eavesdropping. It

wasn't until 16 years later that its to crack Soviet communications power to eavesdrop on foreign-

ers was established in public law. On three separate occasions, the agency set out to write its history, but it aborted each effort because it was too overwhelming. In 1992, NSA tapped Mr. Johnson to take another crack at it.

"Even when I came to the agency in 1964, there was this culture that we were so secret that no one would ever get into our affairs," Mr. Johnson said in an interview that NSA officials arranged and attended.

He spent more than six years writing the report, divided into four intelligence eras, that draws on his 34 years in government eavesdropping around the world. When friends asked him when they would read it, the 68-yearold would say: "We'll all be dead before this is declassified."

In 1998, he completed the report before retiring from NSA the next year. All of its pages were stamped "TOP SECRET UMBRA," using agency jargon that signified it was particularly sensitive.

The most revealing portions of the history hint at U.S. failures

after a day in 1948 the agency dubbed "Black Friday," when the Soviets changed their communications codes. The following year, the NSA's predecessor, the Armed Forces Security Agency, inherited from the military services "a Soviet problem that was in miserable shape." Mr. Johnson wrote, in reference to cracking Soviet codes.

U.S. intelligence agencies were surprised to discover the Soviets exploded a nuclear device in September 1949, the history says. They were again caught off guard four years later when the Soviets detonated a hydrogen bomb. Some government officials believed the effort to decode Soviet communications "was hopeless and should not be funded," Mr. Johnson wrote.

NSA also fought internecine battles with its sister agencies, especially the Central Intelligence Agency. The CIA didn't inform NSA Director Lt. Gen. Ralph J. Canine about its effort in the mid-1950s to tap East German and Soviet cables, dubbed the Berlin Tunnel, the history says.

In the lead-up to the Cuban gence success. In the 1980s, he Missile Crisis, NSA and military spies missed the Soviets transferring a battery of offensive missiles to Cuba. That "marked the most significant failure" by government eavesdroppers to warn national leaders since World War II, Mr. Johnson wrote.

Bobby Ray Inman, a retired admiral and former director of NSA during the late 1970s, says the history doesn't acknowledge the successful tracking of Soviet ships that were heading toward Cuba. During the late 1970s, "there were several access breakthroughs that provided some extraordinary insights," he says.

Hinting at those successes, the declassified history says that as NSA entered that period, it made significant advances in unlikely circumstances. "Even with decreased money, cryptology was yielding the best information that it had produced since World War II" by that time, Mr. Johnson wrote.

In 1979, NSA successfully warned of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and White House postmortems called it an intelli-

wrote, the NSA used "lots of shiny new toys to very telling effect.

"After years of struggle, it was now possible to predict with some clarity and speed the intentions of the major antagonist. It had been a long walk from Pearl Harbor," the history says.

The report also offers a glimpse inside the offices of the mysterious agency. In 1954, at its unairconditioned and overcrowded headquarters, then in Arlington, Va., NSA had a hotweather policy that allowed employees to leave work "when conditions became fairly unbearable." Mr. Johnson wrote. The agency drew a chart listing the heat and humidity combinations that permitted employees to leave, starting at 95 degrees. In colder months, employees' metal badges proved "ideal for scraping ice off windshields," he wrote.

After Mr. Johnson turned in the report, it remained under wraps at the NSA. He mentioned it to Mr. Aid, the historian, after meeting him at an intelligence conference in Canada.

In 2006, Mr. Aid joined forces

sity's National Security Archives and filed a request to get the report. The agency handed over Mr. Johnson's first three volumes the following year, except for about 75 to 100 pages that it deemed too sensitive.

with George Washington Univer-

"I was stunned," Mr. Aid says. "Clearly this history was meant for internal consumption only."

Eager to get a copy after it was handed over to the university. Mr. Johnson called a friend at NSA. But she wouldn't give it to him. "She said, 'I'm not sure we want to do that because then you'll be talking on the record about this, so I'm looking into it," "Mr. Johnson says. He didn't hear back and ended up getting a copy from Mr. Aid.

Historians are working to get their hands on a fourth volume that Mr. Johnson wrote about the NSA. Mr. Johnson says it includes "a couple of instances" during the 1980s where "somebody really made a bad error here and should have been fired.

"I hope it will come out," he says about the fourth volume. "It's still classified."

## Banks Raise Interest Rates in Hopes of Attracting Depositors to Shore Up Liquidity

Continued from Page One Beauchesne, chief financial officer of the Arlington, Va., bank, last month blamed Citigroup for inflating deposit rates in northern Virginia. Trying to keep pace, Virginia Commerce is now offering CDs with interest rates as high as 4.5%. That is eroding

the bank's profit margins. Citigroup's chief financial officer, Gary Crittenden, said the company has a wide array of funding sources world-wide that it can tap. He said Citigroup's high rates on U.S. deposits are worthwhile because they're still cheaper than other types of financing available to the company.

Deposit levels have fluctuated from bank to bank as the industry's crisis has deepened in recent months. Some have reported large increases, including from customers who see banks as a haven from the market's volatility-especially now that federal deposit-insurance limits have been increased. Other banks have suffered declines in deposits, with the steepest falloff at institutions beset with large losses.

For banks in the latter category, the shortage "means less money for lending," says Chris Holmes, the head of retail banking at South Financial Group Inc., of Greenville, S.C., which has 180 branches. "You can have capital, but where you can really get hurt is on the liquidity side."

In the third quarter, South Financial shrank its loan portfolio by \$176 million, bringing it to about \$10.3 billion, in part by curtailing loan growth. Executives said on a conference call last month that loan growth will be constrained again in the fourth

William Reuter, chairman and CEO of Susquehanna Bancshares Inc. in Lititz, Pa., said the competition for deposits hasn't been letting up. In the third quarter, that

clipped the bank's profit margins, and it's likely to continue taking a toll in future periods, Mr. Reuter said, even though Susquehanna is trying to compensate for the higher deposit costs by demanding higher prices for loans.

The fallout of the rate skirmish is "potentially quite damaging," said Mr. Poulos of Oliver Wyman. "It will be a drag on bank earnings, and so it will slow down the recapitalization process" since banks will have less profits to help rebuild their tattered balance sheets.

The average rate of 2.61% on a one-year certificate of deposit as of Wednesday is up from 2% in early May, according to Bankrate. com, a North Palm Beach, Fla., financial-data provider. The jump comes despite Federal Reserve interest-rate cuts that have reduced the fed-funds rate to 1%. Such cuts usually lead to lower deposit rates.

One of the keys for banks to

of the normal process of taking in deposits at low rates and lending at higher rates. Now, bankers say, this mechanism is under pressure. Deposits are coming in at unusually high rates, and can't be readily lent with the typical healthy net interest spread.

Executives at banks such as Fifth Third Bancorp and Webster Financial Corp. said their profits are suffering in part due to the new high rates.

Citigroup and Bank of America Corp. shares fell on Thursday to 13-year lows on economic jitters and concerns that the government's \$250 billion infusion hasn't done enough to stabilize the banking sector. By day's end, Bank of America's shares had rebounded along with the overall market, but Citigroup's stock price dropped another 2%.

Banks covet deposits because of this year's failures of IndyMac Bank, Washington Mutual Inc.'s

return to health is a resumption banking operations and other institutions. Bank executives have been rattled by those seizures and the woes of beleaguered banks such as Wachovia Corp. and National City Corp., from which panicky customers yanked their money. Many lenders are now ratcheting up rates to shore up their deposits.

The situation may undermine the Treasury Department's plan to pump capital into financial institutions, which is intended in part to get banks to make more loans. "They have this new capital, but they have to raise deposits to be able to substantially grow their loan portfolios," says Ken Zerbe, an analyst at Morgan Stanley.

In recent weeks, federal regulators have intensified their scrutiny of bank deposits. Among other things, they are examining the rates banks are paying, according to people familiar with the matter. Regulators often consider rising rates as an indica-

Unlike previous periods of turbulence, the Fed's rate-chopping campaign isn't relieving the pressure this time. In the past, reductions in the federal funds rate have helped level off interest rates on CDs and savings accounts, according to Market Rates Insight Inc., which tracks pricing trends for financial institutions. "This time around, it's much more fierce," says Dan Geller, executive vice president of the San Anselmo, Calif., firm. Banks that don't keep up risk

tion that a bank might be in peril.

losing deposits. That happened with regional lenders SunTrust Banks Inc., Atlanta, and Regions Financial Corp., Birmingham, Ala., where deposit levels declined in the third quarter. Both banks said their deposit levels started to rebound in October.

-Dan Fitzpatrick, Damian Paletta, Robin Sidel and Paul Glader contributed to this

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