

**REMARKS BY HELEN EXUM
ON THE NEW BOOK "SILVER LININGS" BY JUNE SCOBEE RODGERS:**

Everyone has a life story, but the story behind the life of June Scobee Rodgers is not only a surprise, but it is hard to believe. One sees her today as the nationally known widow of Commander Dick Scobee who was killed when NASA's Challenger exploded in 1986. She celebrated the lives of the Challenger crew by creating Challenger Centers to inspire young people to learn about science and space.

June's childhood is the surprise. June grew up in a dysfunctional family, at times homeless, moving constantly, experiencing the harsh cruelty of poverty, trying to understand why her mother was in and out of the mental hospitals. She tells of all the troubles getting through school, raising her brothers, but with an unusual love and understanding of her mother and father. As I read this, I felt that God's hand can be seen all through her life. She read Dr. Norman Peale's "The Power of Positive Thinking" as a ten year old and clung to a positive faith that did indeed lead to silver linings.

After a teenage marriage to Her high school sweetheart, Dick Scobee, they both determined to help each other through college and realize their dreams. The story of how they did it is inspiring. Her positive thinking led to over 50 Challenger Centers worldwide, a wonderful new marriage to General Don Rodgers.

This read is a page-turner. The reader will learn a thing or two about being a child of the homeless, being bullied, but hiding the hurt. Add to that fierce determination and goals. The reader will not only admire June Rodgers but love her.