

Author Media Kit

About the Author



Raymond C. Marra grew up in Westport, Connecticut, where he was shaped by the intersection of European tradition and American culture. Raised by intellectually demanding and principled parents, he developed an early appreciation for discipline, education, independence, and personal responsibility. These values became the foundation of both his personal and professional life, while also inspiring many of the reflections explored in his memoir.

Raymond built a successful career in enterprise technology and corporate sales, where analytical thinking, sound judgment, and a results-driven approach earned him the trust of colleagues and clients alike. Throughout his career, he valued integrity, autonomy, and thoughtful problem-solving over conventional self-promotion, developing a reputation for resilience and practical leadership.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Raymond's life has been shaped by family, tradition, perseverance, and reflection. His experiences navigating life's challenges and triumphs have deepened his appreciation for the people, places, and moments that define personal identity.

Finding My Way In Westport is Raymond's debut memoir. Rather than simply revisiting the past, it offers an honest exploration of how family, culture, expectations, discipline, and resilience shape the people we become. Through deeply personal stories, Raymond invites readers to reflect on their own journeys and the enduring influence of the lives they've lived.

Raymond lives in Connecticut with his wife, Laura, and is the proud father of his daughter, Katherine Grace. When he isn't writing, he enjoys sailing, skiing, traveling, and embracing the traditions and everyday rituals that continue to bring purpose and meaning to his life.



Professional Background

Raymond C. Marra is a seasoned enterprise technology sales executive with a distinguished career spanning multiple market-leading technology companies. A multiple-time Presidents' Club performer, he has generated more than \$100 million in lifetime enterprise software sales, partnering with many of the world's largest corporations.

Throughout his career, Raymond has served as a trusted advisor to Fortune 500 organizations, specializing in strategic account management, new business acquisition, account expansion, and accelerating enterprise adoption across security, observability, cloud, and infrastructure technologies.

Recognized for consistently exceeding sales targets and cultivating executive-level relationships, he has also mentored emerging sales professionals and advised growth-stage technology companies on enterprise go-to-market strategy and sales execution.

Interview Topics

Raymond is available for interviews, podcast appearances, keynote conversations, book clubs, and community events. His discussions center on the personal experiences and life lessons explored in *Finding My Way In Westport*.

Suggested interview topics include:

- The inspiration behind writing *Finding My Way In Westport* and preserving a family legacy.
- Growing up in Westport during a transformative era and the lasting impact of community and culture.
- Family dynamics, identity, discipline, and resilience.
- Overcoming adversity and finding purpose through life's challenges.
- Building a successful enterprise technology career while carrying the lessons of childhood.
- Retirement, reflection, and embracing life's next chapter.
- The importance of preserving family stories for future generations.

Speaking Experience

Raymond has spent much of his professional career delivering presentations and leading discussions within the corporate technology sector. His experience speaking to executive audiences has helped him develop a clear, engaging communication style that translates naturally to podcast interviews, author events, and speaking engagements.



Favorite Story to Share

The remarkable period when Raymond's mother stepped away from her traditional role in the household, fundamentally changing family life and teaching him unexpected lessons about responsibility and independence as a young teen.

Faced with new responsibilities at home, Raymond learned to prepare dinner for his father, maintain the house chores and even sew his own clothes using his mother's Singer sewing machine, an experience that became a lasting symbol of resilience and self-reliance. The machine remains one of the most treasured keepsakes from his parents' home.

These deeply personal stories often lead to broader discussions about family dynamics, resilience, adapting to change, and the unexpected lessons that shape who we become.

Author FAQ

What Inspired You to Write?

At its heart, *Finding My Way In Westport* began as a gift for Raymond's daughter. He wanted to leave behind more than memories. He wanted to preserve the story of his life, his family, and the journey that shaped them so future generations would understand where they came from and the values that defined their family.

What Do You Hope Readers Take Away from Your Memoir?

Raymond hopes his memoir reminds readers, especially young people, that difficult beginnings do not define the rest of their lives. Through honest reflections on childhood struggles, setbacks, and perseverance, he hopes to encourage others to keep moving forward, no matter how many times life knocks them down.

The response from readers has already affirmed that hope. Many have shared that they see themselves in his story, have been deeply moved by his experiences, and have found encouragement in his resilience and determination to honor the sacrifices his parents made while forging his own path.

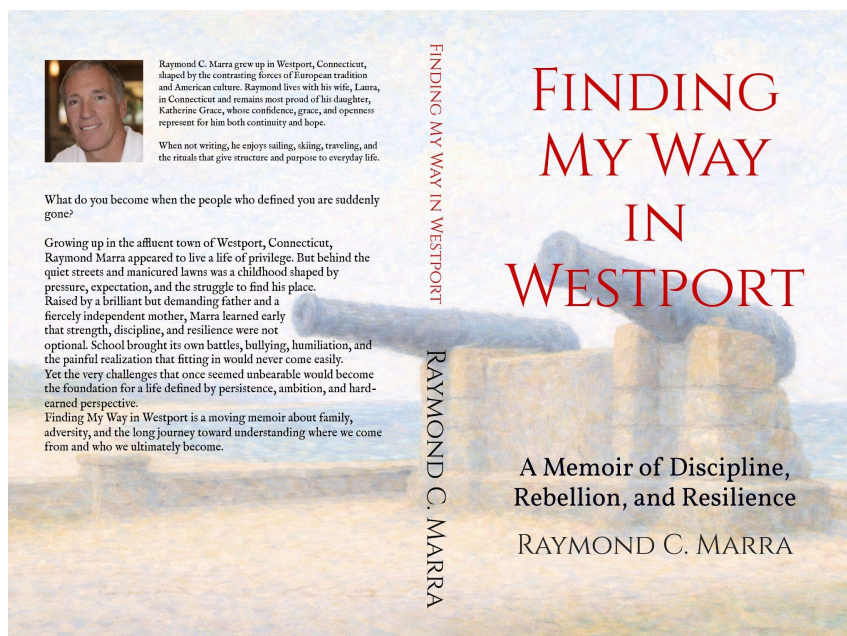
About the Book

Finding My Way In Westport is a deeply reflective memoir about identity, ambition, family, and the hidden emotional forces that shape a life long before success ever arrives.

Set against the backdrop of affluent Westport, Connecticut, the book explores the tension between outward appearances and private struggle.

Beneath the polished surface of privilege and expectation, Raymond Marra recounts a childhood marked by bullying, emotional pressure, social insecurity, and the constant search for belonging.

At the center of the story is a complicated family dynamic shaped by two powerful opposites: a fiercely independent and unpredictable mother, and a brilliant, demanding father whose expectations left a lasting psychological imprint.



"Finding My Way in Westport, " a book by Raymond C. Marra"

As Marra moves into adulthood, the memoir traces how those early experiences fueled both his drive and his self-doubt.

Determined to prove himself, he rises into the high-pressure world of enterprise technology sales, building a successful career with major software companies while navigating the relentless performance culture of corporate America.

Yet beneath the professional achievements lies a deeper internal struggle. The question remains whether external success can ever quiet the unresolved conflicts carried from childhood. Part coming-of-age story, part psychological reflection, and part insider look at ambition and reinvention, Finding My Way In Westport examines the emotional cost of achievement and the lifelong process of understanding who we are beneath the roles we learn to perform.

Honest, introspective, and emotionally layered, the memoir speaks to anyone who has wrestled with identity, family expectations, reinvention, and the pursuit of meaning behind outward success.

Key Themes

Finding My Way In Westport explores the universal search for identity and belonging through the lens of one man's deeply personal journey.

The memoir examines the challenges of coming of age in an affluent community while feeling out of step with those around him, the influence of strict yet loving parents, the pressures of academic and personal expectations, and the resilience forged through adversity.

The book also offers an intimate portrait of Italian American family life within a predominantly WASP community, exploring themes of family legacy, discipline, rebellion, perseverance, self-discovery, resilience, and the lifelong pursuit of purpose and self-awareness.

Notable Stories & Discussion Topics

The memoir contains several defining moments that provide meaningful opportunities for interviews and media conversations, including:

- The remarkable story of Raymond's parents, who met in Ivrea, Italy, and married just three months later while still in Italy.
- Growing up as an Italian American in an affluent New England community while navigating questions of identity and belonging.
- His mother's unexpected withdrawal from her role as wife and mother, and the profound impact it had on the family.
- The pivotal "garage scene," a defining moment that shaped his understanding of responsibility, discipline, and resilience.
- The emotional impact of losing both parents while still in his twenties, and the personal journey of rebuilding his identity during one of life's most difficult seasons.
- Building a successful enterprise technology career while carrying the invisible emotional weight of childhood experiences.
- The decision to wake at 5:30 every morning for a year to write the memoir as a lasting gift for his daughter.

These moments naturally lead to broader conversations about resilience, family dynamics, personal growth, legacy, reinvention, and the power of understanding one's own story.

Early Reader Response

Since its release, Finding My Way In Westport has received enthusiastic early reviews from readers who praise its honesty, emotional depth, and relatable storytelling. Many have shared that Raymond's experiences reminded them of their own lives, inspiring reflection on family, resilience, perseverance, and the lasting influence of childhood.

"Brings Back My Own Memories of Westport"

"I thoroughly enjoyed this memoir of growing up in what was my hometown too. Although I'm ten years younger than the author, many of his memories brought back my own. It's fascinating to step inside the mind of someone who found his way through a difficult adolescence while walking many of the same school hallways. A must-read for anyone who grew up in Westport."

★★★★★ *Reviews* ★★★★★

Don

★★★★★ Amazon Review

"A Heartfelt and Engaging Debut"

"For a first-time author, this book captures the experience of growing up in a hometown filled with both cherished memories and difficult challenges. The storytelling is honest, relatable, and inspiring, reminding us how perseverance and community shape who we become."

Tierney Bannon

★★★★★ Amazon Review

"An Amazing Journey"

"Ray's openness and thoughtful reflections are inspiring. His journey and remarkable resilience stayed with me long after I finished reading. Thank you for sharing your story."

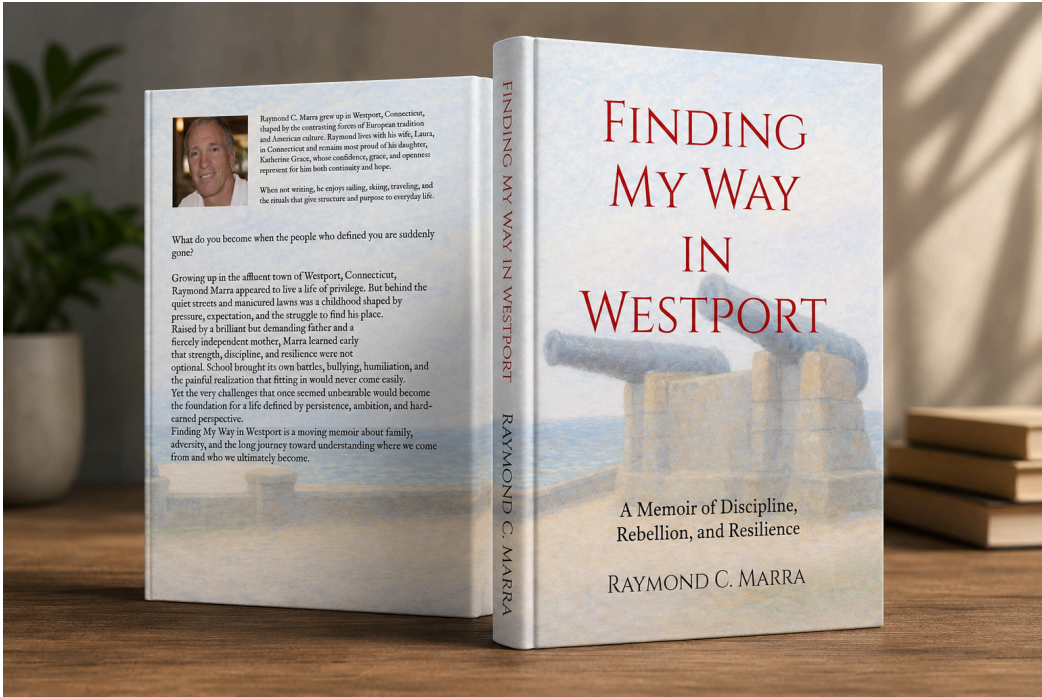
5.0 out of 5 stars

Honest, Moving, and Thought-Provoking

Reviewed in the United States on July 26, 2026

This is a memoir that stays with you long after you finish it. Raymond Marra shares his story with remarkable honesty, never asking for sympathy but instead offering thoughtful reflections on family, identity, loss, and resilience. What makes the book especially compelling is that it encourages you to think about your own upbringing and the experiences that shaped you. Whether or not you've ever lived in Westport, the themes are universal, and his willingness to be vulnerable makes the story both engaging and inspiring. An impressive debut that I gladly recommend.

Book Information



Details & Contact

Title
Finding My Way In Westport: A Memoir of Discipline, Rebellion, and Resilience

Author
Raymond C. Marra

Genre
Memoir

Publisher
Raymond C. Marra

Publication Date
April 22, 2026

Language
English

Formats Available
Paperback

ISBN-10
1972495151

ISBN-13
978-1972495155

Trim Size
6 × 9 inches

Weight
1.17 lbs

Purchase Information
On Amazon and other online book retailers.

Media Inquiries

Email

raymondcmarra@gmail.com,

Website

www.raymondcmarra.com

Phone

+1 (203) 984-1504

LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/in/raymondmarra/

Facebook

www.facebook.com/ray.marra.1

© 2026 Raymond C. Marra