About the Authors

Mary Brooks, MA, CCC-SLP, graduated from Kansas State University and the University of Kansas with degrees in speech-language pathology. After graduation Mary founded and directed the departments of speech-language pathology and audiology at St. Luke's Hospital of Kansas City, Missouri. She currently lives in Overland Park, Kansas, with her husband and three children.

Deedra Hartung, MA, CCC-SLP, graduated from the University of Kansas and has spent over 20 years in health care. She started her career as a speech-language pathologist, moved into the broader rehabilitation field, and then shifted into acute care hospital administration. Deedra has been affiliated with several prestigious health care organizations and is presently a health care consultant working with hospital, rehabilitation, and physician organizations. She has four children and currently lives with her husband in St. Louis, Missouri.

Merrily Johnson attended The American Academy of Art in Chicago and The Kansas City Art Institute. Merrily was an artist and designer for Hallmark, Inc., in Kansas City, Missouri, and the art director for Current, Inc., in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She currently lives in Colorado Springs, where she has an antique business and enjoys reading, hiking, and gardening.

