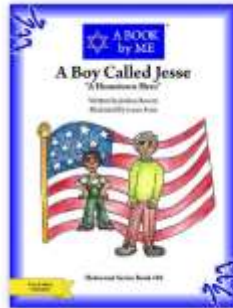


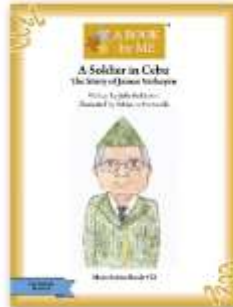
Valiant Veterans

Real People who Triumphed over Adversity



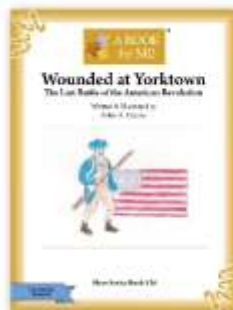
Jesse Crawford was a small-town boy who went to war after the attack on Pearl Harbor. He was a tank mechanic who saw the horrors of a Nazi work camp. There, he learned the only crime the prisoners committed was being Jewish. After the war, an act of kindness for a European child gave Jesse a sense of normalcy. He gave her parents a piece of leather to make shoes so she could play outside.

#valor#kindness#compassion#illinois



James Verheyen proudly served his country in the Philippines during WWII. While there, he was wounded by shrapnel from an artillery shell. After the A-bomb was dropped in Japan, he was ordered to go from house to house collecting weapons from the Japanese. He also served in an important role as General MacArthur's Chief Clerk. He is a great American hero.

#pennsylvania#patriotism#bravery#illinois



Alexander McCurdy fought bravely in the American Revolution. This was a war like no other, because it was waged for America's independence from England. Alexander was 22 years old when he enlisted to fight for this freedom and was wounded at Yorktown in the very last battle of the war. This book is unique as the young author proudly wrote his ancestor's story. Through this experience, the young writer learned that we have to fight for what we believe in.

#ireland#bravery#dar#pennsylvania



Saul Schiff went to Europe to fight for his country during WWII. He never dreamed he would see fellow Jews suffering in a concentration camp called Dachau. Saul did all he could to help the survivors during his military duties. One day, he met a special survivor named Esther and, after she immigrated to America, he won her heart. They married, and he had a successful career with the Department of the Army at the Rock Island Arsenal in Illinois.

#newjersey#antisemitism#valor#illinois



Charlie Kirkpatrick volunteered for military service after he heard the news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He sailed to England on the Queen Mary a very famous troopship used to carry soldiers to war and home again. His unit was sent to France days after the Normandy landing and then to Belgium where the Battle of the Bulge had just been fought. His duties were to guard General Patton as his first line of defense.

#honor#patriotism#worldchanger#illinois





Soldier Leland Chandler joined the Army during WWII and served in the Pacific theater. He was taken as a prisoner of war by the Japanese and treated horribly. Seventy years after the war, he was invited back to Japan where he learned to forgive the sins of his former enemies. Students at Costa Catholic School in his hometown of Galesburg wrote and illustrated his story for young readers.

#forgive#justice#inspiration#illinois



Virgil Juliot was a young boy who was fascinated by airplanes. Little did he know that someday he would become a navigator in a bomber and fly many successful missions during WWII. He served in the Pacific and told his young author he saw the Enola Gay, the airplane that dropped the Atomic bombs on Japan. Virgil served three years in the military, and he spent the remainder of his life as a pastor, "navigating" people to God.

#minnesota#honor#patriotism#illinois



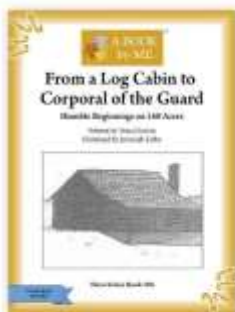
In the 1700's Richard Rue fought the Indians and the British, and was captured, tortured and enslaved. After escaping these difficult situations, he achieved great success and wealth in his lifetime. Students can read about this amazing man's life in early America and the sacrifices made for the many freedoms Americans enjoy today. This book is written and illustrated by Rue's sixth great-grandson, a member of Children of the American Revolution (CAR).

#maryland#resilience#nscar#indiana



Harold Beard leaned on his faith as fear of death was with him daily during WWII. Once Allies won, he was shocked when he saw Jewish prisoners in a sub-camp of the famous Buchenwald concentration camp. This Christian man had never had hate burn in his heart before that day, but what the Nazis did to these people made him burn with hatred. He told his young author that it took many years for him to let go of hatred and forgive them for what they did.

#tolerance#empathy#integrity#illinois



Joe Lambert went from being a young man building a log cabin with his father to serving our country in Germany during WWII. He looked snappy in his dress uniform when promoted to Corporal of the Guard. Joe guarded General Eisenhower when he came to visit. After the war, Joe recognized that the German people were not to blame for the war, and he showed kindness to a German widow who did his laundry.

#missouri#accomplishment#empathy#illinois

