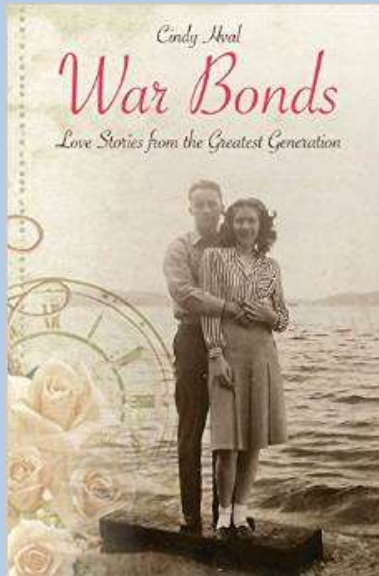


War Bonds

Love Stories from the Greatest Generation

By Cindy Hval



(Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney)

Several years ago, Cindy Hval, a writer for the Spokesman-Review began a series of feature articles about couples who met and married before, during, or immediately after World War II. Responses to these stories about members of our Greatest Generation were so positive that she combined thirty-six of them into a single volume.

For a child of those of the Greatest Generation, the stories and pictures proved to be a nostalgic trip back in time. I do not know any of those folks highlighted in the book, and it is quite probable that they did not know my parents. (A later newspaper story did feature a couple who live directly behind us, and whose daughter was friends for years with my mom and sister.) Yet the pictures remind me of one's I remember from my childhood. Even the way these couples met brings to mind family tales of how my folks met. (Something about Dad going to look at a horse and meeting the woman he would marry!)

Most impressive about all of these folks is that they stayed together throughout the decades. Each of the stories features bits of wisdom from the couples on how to achieve that marital longevity.

With members of the Greatest Generation leaving us at an ever increasing rate, Cindy's efforts to help us remember their courage, their love, their dedication to the nation and to each other is truly inspirational. This book is a great way to remember the best of our parents or grandparents.