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**Decorated War Veteran Shares *Struggles, Service, & Smiles:*
*The Autobiography of a Depression Era Kid***

Outskirts Press Releases Captivating Autobiography by WWII Veteran Robert B. Wiley, Lt. Col. USAF, Ret.

Aurora, CO, August 26, 2011 – Do you remember when hamburger was a nickel a pound? Author Robert B. Wiley does. He’s just released his autobiography, *Struggles, Service, & Smiles: The Autobiography of a Depression Era Kid*, published by Outskirts Press.

Beginning in 1924, the book follows Wiley’s childhood during the Great Depression, when he loses his father at the age of nine. He’s drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943 and retired after twenty-one years of service to his country as a decorated veteran and a Lieutenant Colonel. He and his wife, Mickey, then began phase two of their lives. Through it all, Wiley maintains an irrepressible love of life. During a stint at a Denver comedy club as “Grandpa Bob,” he opened with “Thank you. I am happy to be here. At eighty-four, I’m happy to be *anywhere!*”

When Wiley and the other residents of his independent living retirement community were encouraged to write their memoirs, one resident complained that she had nothing to write about. Wiley challenged her with “What do you mean nothing to write about? Do you realize that the average resident here has lived one-third as long as there has been a United States? We’re thirty percent as old as our country!” And so began his career as an author.

WWII veterans, as well as other veterans, will be reminded of their military careers, and the days of youth and early adulthood; the trying times as well as the pleasures and the friendships. Wiley touches on the vital role military wives play during both war and peacetime, and the children and grandchildren of these veterans will gain insight into what their parents and grandparents encountered and endured, much of which was never spoken.

At 192 pages, *Struggles, Service & Smiles: The Autobiography of a Depression Era Kid* will appeal to a wide audience of various ages. It can be ordered by retailers or wholesalers for the maximum trade discount price set by the author in quantities of ten or more from the Outskirts Press Direct bookstore at www.OutskirtsPress.com/bookstore. The paperback is available worldwide on book retailer websites such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble and is being aggressively promoted with a focus on the autobiography and military categories.

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