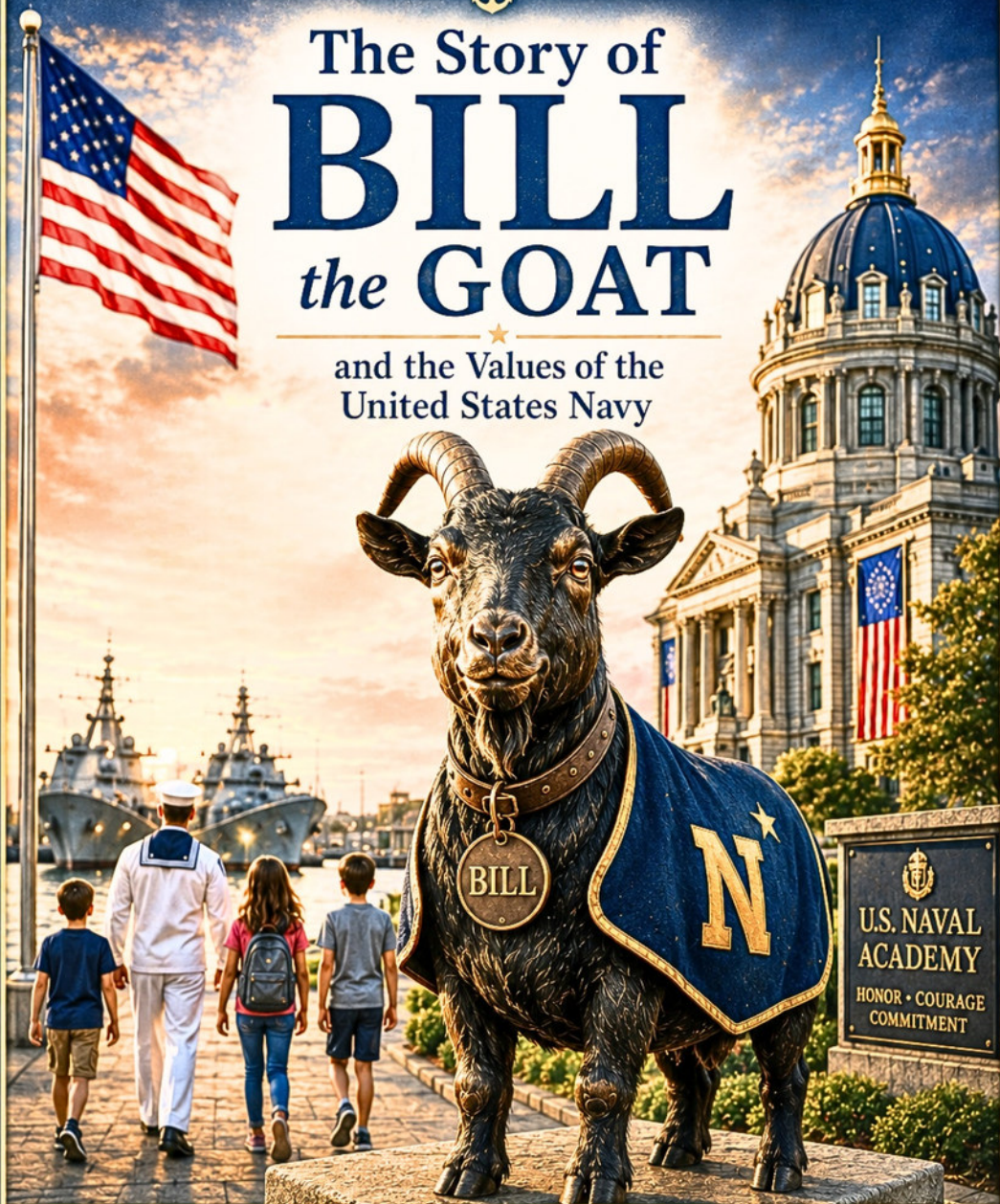


★ LINDI BOOKS PRESENTS ★



The Story of **BILL** *the* **GOAT**

and the Values of the
United States Navy



HONOR



COURAGE



COMMITMENT



KINDNESS

A STORY OF FRIENDSHIP, SERVICE, AND BELONGING

★ WHY I WROTE THIS BOOK ★



This book is dedicated to the children of military families.

While service members proudly serve our country, their children serve in a special way too. They face challenges that are often unseen—long separations, frequent moves, new schools, and the worry that comes when a loved one is far away.

I wrote this story because I believe military children are some of the bravest children in the world. Their strength, resilience, and ability to keep moving forward deserve to be celebrated.

May Bill's story remind every military child that they are important, appreciated, and never forgotten.

With gratitude,

Linda Warkentin

Lindi Books

*Spreading the Joy of Reading
Around the World*



★
MEET
SAVANNAH
— . *and* . —
★ **ALEXIS** ★

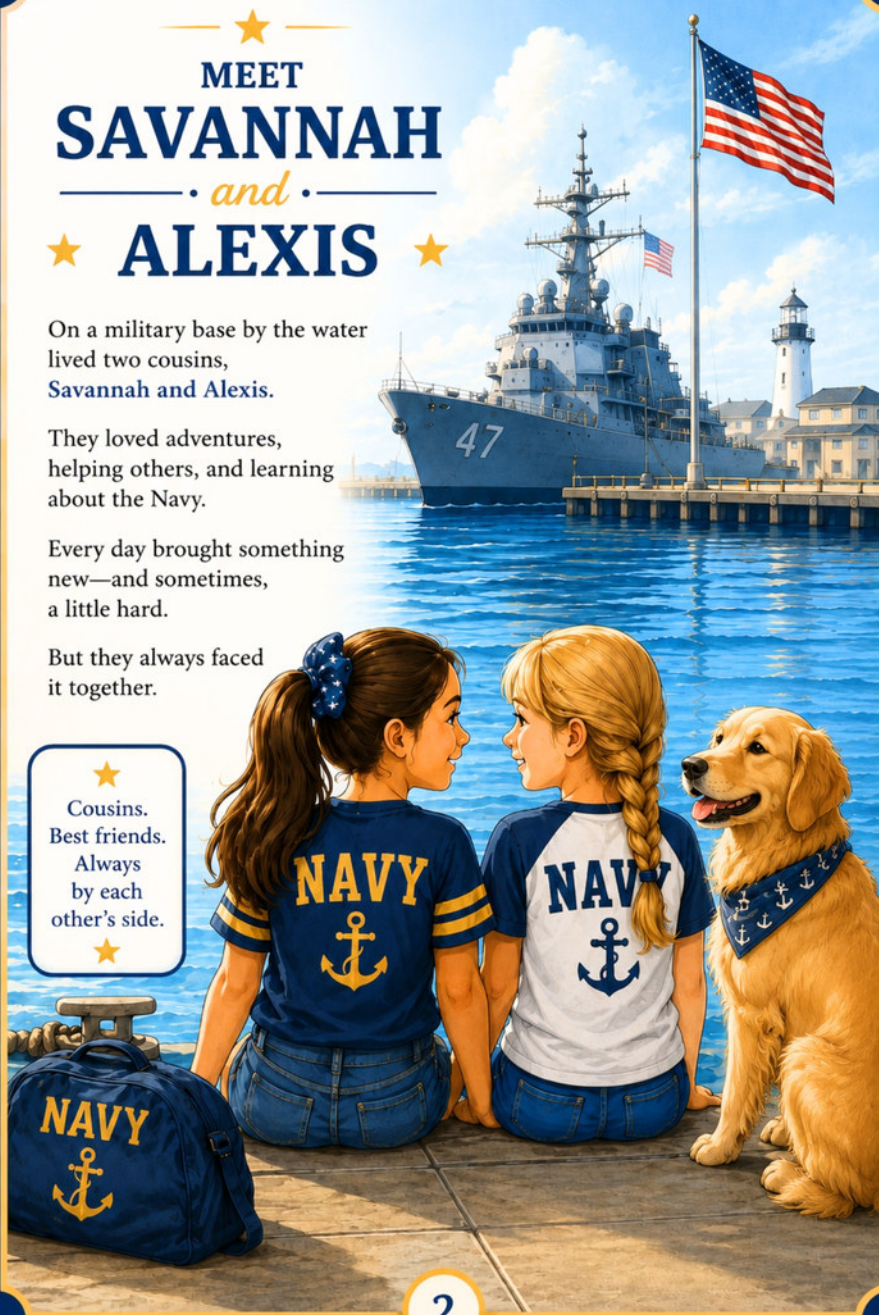
On a military base by the water
lived two cousins,
Savannah and Alexis.

They loved adventures,
helping others, and learning
about the Navy.

Every day brought something
new—and sometimes,
a little hard.

But they always faced
it together.

★
Cousins.
Best friends.
Always
by each
other's side.
★



PATRICK ARRIVES WITH A SPECIAL STORY

One afternoon, their friend Patrick came running up.

"I have an amazing story for you!" he said.

It's about a very special dog who became a hero to the United States Naval Academy. His name is Bill!"

Savannah and Alexis couldn't wait to hear more.

Bill's story will show us what courage, loyalty, and teamwork really mean!

Every hero has a story.

Every story can inspire courage.



Let's learn about Bill the Dog—
a true Navy legend!

★ MEET BILL, ★ THE NAVY'S LEGENDARY GOAT!



Patrick began the story.

"Many, many years ago,
a little goat wandered onto
the U.S. Naval Academy
campus in Annapolis.

No one knew where he
came from, but everyone
knew he was special.

The Midshipmen
took him in, cared
for him, and
named him...

BILL!



BILL BELONGED. AND THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING.



BILL SHOWED ★ LOYALTY ★



Bill wasn't just brave for himself. He was loyal.

He stayed by the side of the midshipmen who cared for him.

When they studied late, Bill stayed close.

When they practiced hard, Bill cheered them on.

When they needed encouragement, Bill was there.

He showed that loyal friends make a strong team.



LOYALTY
means standing
by your friends
through good times
and hard times.



★
Loyalty is more
than words—
it's **showing up**
when it matters most.

★ TRUE LOYALTY LIFTS OTHERS UP.
TOGETHER, WE ACHIEVE MORE. ★

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BILL SHOWED ★TEAMWORK★



Bill learned that no one wins alone.

On the water, in the classroom, and on the field, everyone worked together.

Bill cheered for the athletes.

He encouraged the students.

He reminded everyone that great things happen when we support one another.

Bill knew that teamwork turns effort into success.



★TEAMWORK★

means working together, supporting each other, and never giving up.



Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

— Helen Keller

★ TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER.
TOGETHER, WE ACHIEVE MORE. ★

BILL SHOWED ★ RESILIENCE ★



Life at the Naval Academy
wasn't always easy.

There were long days.
Tough challenges.
And times when things
didn't go as planned.

But Bill never gave up.

He kept trying.

He learned from mistakes.

He stayed strong.

Bill showed that
resilience means
bouncing back
and growing
stronger every time.

★
RESILIENCE
means bouncing
back, learning,
and never giving
up on your goals.
★



★
It's not about
how many times
you fall.
It's about how many
times you get back up.
★

★ RESILIENCE IS NOT GIVING UP. ★
IT'S KEEPING GOING.

BILL SHOWED ★ LEGACY ★



Years passed, but Bill's legacy never faded.

Midshipmen still tell stories of his courage, his loyalty, his heart.

They remember the goat who never gave up, the friend who stood by them always.

Bill didn't just make history.
He became part of it.

Because true legacy isn't about being remembered—it's about the lives you inspire.



Bill showed that one goat with heart can leave a legacy that lasts forever.



LIVE WITH COURAGE. LEAD WITH LOYALTY.
★ WORK TOGETHER. BOUNCE BACK. ★
LEAVE A LEGACY.

THE END

★ ARMY-NAVY WEEK ★ AND BILL'S FAMILY



- ★ Every year, the Army and Navy meet for one of America's most famous football games.
- ★ The rivalry began in 1890 and continues today.
- ★ For generations, Bill the Goat has represented the spirit of the Navy.
- ★ Because goats do not live forever, the Naval Academy carefully raises Bill's descendants.
- ★ Today, a line of Bills continues the tradition.
- ★ Before football games, the Navy mascot often leads parades, attends special events, and helps cheer on the Midshipmen.
- ★ Thousands of fans look forward to seeing Bill each year during Army-Navy Week.
- ★ Bill's family reminds us that traditions can live on for generations.



★
"A great tradition is
passed from one
generation to the next."
★

A TRADITION THROUGH TIME

● **1890**

First Army-Navy
Game



● **EARLY 1900s**

Goat mascots
become Navy
tradition



● **TODAY**

Bill's descendants
continue the
legacy



★ A LASTING HONOR ★ THE BRONZE STATUE OF BILL



Bill's impact on the Naval Academy is honored with a bronze statue that stands proudly on campus.

The statue is located near the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium.

It was created by sculptor Sydney Lough Thompson and dedicated in 1944 by the Class of 1944.

The statue celebrates Bill's loyalty, spirit, and the traditions he helped build.

"Traditions may change over time, but the values they represent stand forever."



Bill became a symbol of courage, loyalty, and Navy pride.



Midshipmen and visitors alike stop to remember the goat who started it all.



Bill's legacy lives on—in bronze, in stories, and in the hearts of Midshipmen.

★ HONOR ★ COURAGE ★ COMMITMENT ★

★ GET READY FOR ★ THE NEXT STORY!

This next story is extra special.

It was written by me,
just for two amazing young girls
right here on the base.

I hope you enjoy it and
know how proud I am of you!

Love, **Lindi**



On a sunny day, while Savannah and Alexis played in their backyard, a surprise guest trotted in - none other than their uncle Patrick, Patrick wasn't just any ram; he came from a prestigious family tree, tracing his ancestry back to the famous Navy icon, Bill the Ram.



"I've noticed that you both have been experiencing fear lately. Allow me to introduce you to our courageous relative, Bill the Ram," Patrick started, speaking warmly and affectionately as he addressed Savannah and Alexis. The girls nodded, eagerly anticipating the tale.



Patrick shared tales of Bill's legendary adventures, leading a group of female goats that provided the ship's crew with milk. Bill carried himself proudly on the ship, lifting spirits with his bravery and commanding presence.



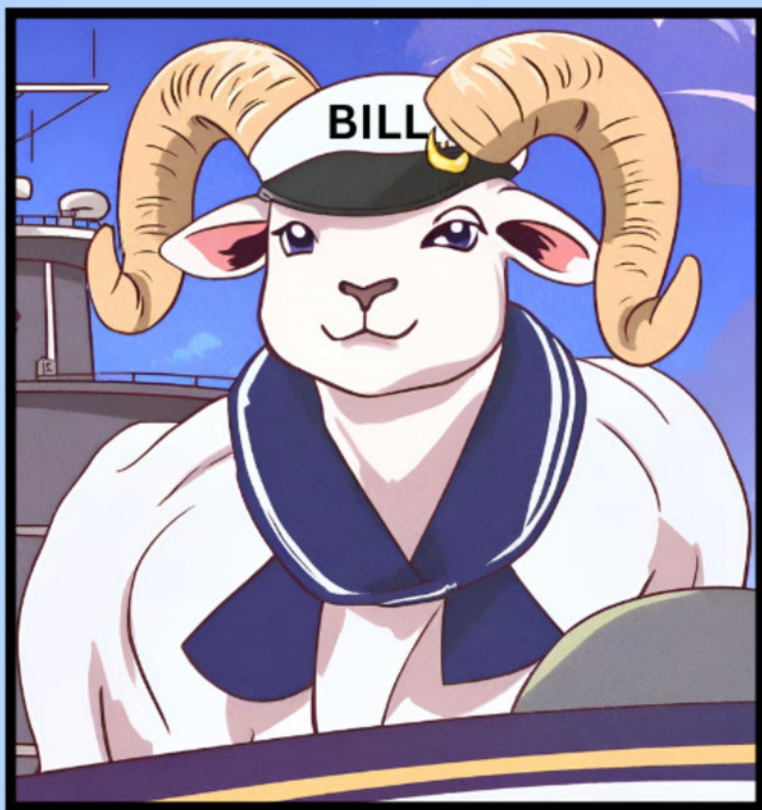
"Like our hero Uncle Bill, both of you are doing an amazing job here on this military base," Patrick exclaimed, his eyes filled with admiration. "Every day, you demonstrate courage and strength, just like our brave family members. Whether saying goodbye as a parent deploys or welcoming them back, you are truly heroes."



Savannah and Alexis beamed with pride, their hearts filled with a newfound sense of purpose.



"Always remember, my beloved nieces," Patrick expressed warmly, "wherever your journey leads you, carry yourselves with pride, like Uncle Bill the Ram. You possess courage, strength, and are impacting lives in big and small ways."



With a sprinkle of motivation, Savannah and Alexis squeezed their uncle in a tight bear hug, proud to carry on their family's legacy of courage and valor, just like their hero relative, Bill the Ram. And off they went, playing and giggling, imagining themselves as fearless sailors on a naval adventure, just like their dads.



★ THE BENEFITS OF ★ LIVING ON A MILITARY BASE



- ★ Living on a military base can be a wonderful experience for children and families.
- ★ Military bases are like small communities where neighbors look out for one another and friendships grow strong.
- ★ Children often have access to parks, playgrounds, sports teams, swimming pools, libraries, youth centers, and special events throughout the year.
- ★ Military families understand each other's challenges and support one another during deployments and moves.
- ★ Many children make lifelong friends because they share similar experiences and understand what military life is like.
- ★ Living on base also gives children the opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds, cultures, and parts of the world.
- ★ Most importantly, military bases are filled with people who are dedicated to serving something bigger than themselves.
- ★ Just like Bill the Goat became part of the Navy family, military children become part of a special community built on friendship, service, courage, and teamwork.



★
"Military bases are
communities where
friendships grow and
heroes live."
★

FRIENDSHIP ★ COMMUNITY ★ SERVICE ★ OPPORTUNITY

★ FAMOUS PEOPLE ★ WHO GREW UP IN MILITARY FAMILIES



MICHELLE OBAMA
Former First Lady
of the United States

★ Grew up in a military
family environment and
often speaks about
service and community.



PINK
Singer-Songwriter

★ Daughter of a
military veteran.



JESSICA ALBA
Actress and Entrepreneur

★ Daughter of a
U.S. Air Force family.



MILITARY CHILDREN LEARN:



KELLY CLARKSON
Singer

★ Grew up around
military communities.



JOHN GLENN
Astronaut and
U.S. Senator

★ Inspired generations
through service and
exploration.



ADAPTABILITY



COURAGE



LEADERSHIP



TEAMWORK



RESILIENCE



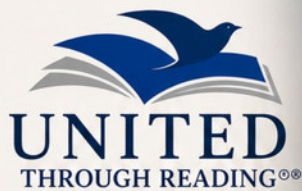
These qualities can help them succeed
wherever life takes them.



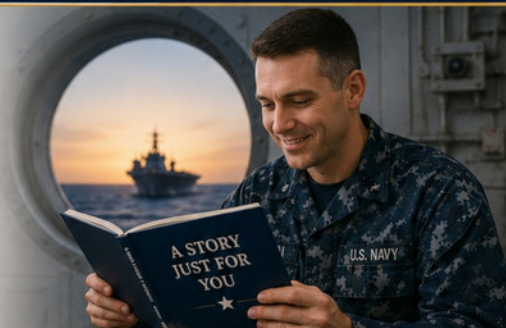
★
*"Your military
journey is helping
prepare you for
great things."*
★



DREAM ★ LEARN ★ LEAD ★ SUCCEED



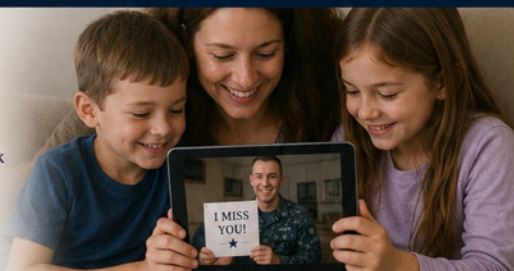
Strengthening Military Families
One Story at a Time®



★ HOW IT ALL BEGAN ★

United Through Reading began with a simple idea that grew from the heart: help military families stay connected through the power of reading.

What started as one father reading a book on a CD for his son during deployment has grown into a global nonprofit that strengthens millions of military families.



OUR STORY

1989



A father serving overseas wanted to read to his young son. He recorded himself on audio cassette so they could share stories—no matter the distance.

1990



That simple idea inspired the creation of United Through Reading to help other service members and their families stay connected.

1995



The program expanded to include more branches of the military and reached thousands of families worldwide.

2000–2010



With new technology, we grew our library, improved access, and deepened connections for military families.

TODAY



Today, United Through Reading touches millions of lives, one story at a time—bridging distances and building stronger military families.

We believe that stories have the power to comfort, connect, and create lasting bonds—no matter the miles.



Connecting military families worldwide



Millions of stories shared across the globe



Stronger families. Stronger communities. Stronger world.

YOU CAN HELP KEEP FAMILIES CONNECTED.

Your support helps us deliver the healing power of stories to service members and their loved ones.



DONATE TODAY

Every gift makes a difference.



★ **DONATE ONLINE** ★ **UNITEDTHROUGHREADING.ORG**

United Through Reading is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Every story. Every family. Every day.

