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A Father's Day "Dedication"

(LAS VEGAS, Nev.) Father's Day has become a day to not only honor your father, but all men who act as a father figure: stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers and mentors. Yet for many who are estranged from their father, the day brings up emotions of guilt, regret and sadness. And for those whose father has passed away, the celebration of Father's Day marks an immeasurable void. An estimated 24.7 million children (36 percent) live absent their biological father (Source: National Fatherhood Initiative).

John Zaiss had just graduated from college when his father passed away from cancer. For more than thirty years he struggled on Father's Day with bittersweet memories and the never-answered plea of just one more moment together. However, this Father's Day he has something more to celebrate. Zaiss is publishing his first book, *A Dedication* (Synergy Books, June 2005, ISBN: 0-9755922-3-8, \$21.95) in honor of his father's memory.

"I didn't set out to write a biography or even a memorial," says Zaiss. "But like many writers, after I finished the book I found the themes of loss and redemption in my own life reflected back at me even though I wasn't conscious of them when I was writing."

A Dedication tells the story of a rebellious, underachieving teenager, Quinn Marshall, who finds an unusual mentor in the form of a former Marine whose casual confidence masks a shattered past. The friendship that develops offers both a chance for redemption from past mistakes, until cancer changes their relationship and ignites an urgent attempt to reconnect with estranged family members.

"*A Dedication* lovingly explores the gains and losses of growing up" says Sherman Frederick of the *Las Vegas Review Journal*. "Zaiss has provided his readers with an insightful and fun read reminiscent of both *Ordinary People* and *Tuesdays with Morrie*."

As a source or guest, Zaiss can discuss:

- Unique ways to honor your father this year on Father's Day
- His experience with losing a father as a young adult
- The importance of reconciliation/forgiveness before death
- What to do and say when a family member is diagnosed with cancer
- Dealing with grief and positive ways to celebrate the life of a loved one who has passed away
- How to reconnect with an estranged parent on Father's Day
- His own parenting experiences and advice as a father of three teenagers
- The importance of mentoring for young teens

John Zaiss is the president of Crescent Capital Management and the father of three teenagers. He divides his time between Las Vegas and Whitefish, Montana. Visit www.johnzaiss.com for more information.

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To schedule an interview with John Zaiss, or receive a review copy of *A Dedication*, contact Jennifer McAndrew of Phenix & Phenix Literary Publicists at (512) 478-2028 ext 221 or jmcandrew@bookpros.com.