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# PRESS RELEASE

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Badger Books Inc.  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BRAVE WW II PILOT SURVIVED IT ALL**

OREGON, WI, November 11 -- By the time World War II airman William "Wild Bill" Scanlon was shot out of a B-17 and spirited to the safety of England by French Underground resistance fighters, the gutsy gunner had survived over 70 combat missions flown as a member of the air forces of three different countries.

*Destined to Live* tells the true story of a Chicago man who:

- Joined the United States Cavalry at age 15;
- Learned to fly fighter planes in the Canadian Royal Air Force,
- Shot down seven confirmed Nazi fighters;
- Flew tailgunner for Britain's Royal Air Force in such famous missions as the Thousand Bomber Raid and the Battle of the Ruhr;
- Rode as a B-17 replacement gunner in the United States' Eighth Air Force;
- Survived bullet and shrapnel wounds to the jaw, leg, hand and head as he fell into enemy territory Feb 8, 1944;
- Escaped through the French Underground network back to England;
- And repeatedly beat the odds of combat to return home alive.

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*Waubesa Press*

**P.O. Box 192 Oregon, WI 53575 Phone/fax/data: (608) 835-3638**

**Online catalog: <http://www.badgerbooks.com>**

**E-Mail: [books@badgerbooks.com](mailto:books@badgerbooks.com)**

**DESTINED TO LIVE:  
THE TRUE STORY OF WW II PILOT "WILD BILL" SCANLON**

**Fact Sheet**

**TITLE:** *Destined to Live: The Incredible True Story of WW II Pilot "Wild Bill" Scanlon*

**PUBLISHER:** Badger Books Inc., P.O. Box 192, Oregon, WI 53575; Phone: 800-928-2372; Fax: 608-835-3638; E-Mail: [books@badgerbooks.com](mailto:books@badgerbooks.com); Web site: [www.badgerbooks.com](http://www.badgerbooks.com)

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**AUTHOR:** Kristin Gilpatrick

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**SUMMARY:** The true story of a Chicago man who enlisted at 15 and repeatedly defied death while serving as a pilot for three countries during World War II.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Available from Amazon.com, Ingram, Partners, Baker & Taylor and The Bookmen.



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### **KRISTIN GILPATRICK**

Kristin Gilpatrick Halverson was born in Edgerton, Wis., to educators Robert and Barbara Gilpatrick. A Cedarburg High School alumna, she graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1990 with a double major in journalism and Spanish, having studied a semester in Valladolid, Spain. In college, her lifelong passion for writing and history blossomed into a love for telling the stories of the “everyday” people who made history.

She put that passion to paper as a reporter for newspapers in Illinois and Wisconsin, winning nine press association awards along the way. Since 1997, she’s been a magazine editor for the Credit Union Executives Society, Madison, Wis.

For the past 13 years, she has also been a big sister to two girls in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters programs and is active in her church. She married her best friend Steven L. Halverson, an Edward Jones investment representative, Oct. 25, 1997. They live in Monona, Wis., where she has written three books, including *The Hero Next Door*<sup>™</sup>, *The Hero Next Door*<sup>™</sup> *Returns* and *Desti*  
*www.heronextdoor.org* for updates and details on her future projects.)