

About the Author

Ben Sherwood is a best-selling author and award-winning journalist who began writing *The Man Who Ate the 747* in 1998. He made many research trips to Superior, Nebraska -- the setting of the book -- and was made an honorary citizen there in September 2000.

Ben was born and raised in Los Angeles. He graduated from Harvard College and went on to Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, earning two advanced degrees.

In 1989, he began a career in broadcast journalism with ABC News *PrimeTime Live* in New York and later Washington, D.C., covering stories across America and overseas.



In 1997, he joined *NBC Nightly News* with Tom Brokaw, where he worked as senior broadcast producer and helped guide coverage of many stories including the 9/11 attacks on America, the 2000 presidential election debacle, the impeachment of President Clinton, the school shooting at Columbine, and the deaths of Princess Diana and John F. Kennedy, Jr. His work has received many honors including Emmy Awards for coverage of the war in Kosovo and the floods in Mozambique and two Edward R. Murrow Awards for best newscast.

Over the years, Ben's non-fiction writing has appeared in many places including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The New Republic*, and *The Washington Monthly*.

Ben lives in New York City where he is working on a new novel.

VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



musicians, actors, composers and dancers. Katherine focused her efforts on reading micro film and making copies of the obituaries of performers buried in The Woodlawn Cemetery.

She spent hours in the library

Katherine Coriano, a sophomore at Aquinas High School, was required to do a volunteer project for school. Intrigued by the flood of television programs on cemeteries and funeral homes she decided it might be fun to work in a cemetery. When she called the Friends of Woodlawn to contribute her volunteer time we immediately put her to work.

We were beginning to develop the Great Entertainers List, a roster of names and biographies of

learning about the funerals of some of the Broadway stars of the early twentieth century. Among those individuals she researched were: Marilyn Miller, Ziegfeld girl and film actress; Charles Gilpin, the first African American to appear on a white stage; Gus Edwards, vaudevillian best known for writing the popular tunes, "School Days" and "By The Light of The Silvery Moon;" and Leopold Damrosch, the German conductor who founded the New York



Ben Sherwood's book The Death and Life of Charlie St. Cloud will be published by Bantam in early 2004.