

## I Dream of Things That Never Were Tells an Inspiring Story About Overcoming Adversity and Achieving Your Dreams

Northport, New York – Today, <u>Twelve Tables Press</u> released *I Dream of Things That Never Were: The Ken Kunken Story* by Kenneth J. Kunken. In this uplifting memoir, a quadriplegic trial attorney shares his personal experiences with disability, education, law, the American healthcare system, and how each of us can channel our unique talents to achieve great things.

Almost totally paralyzed as a result of a spinal cord injury incurred during a college football game in 1970, Ken Kunken battles back from the depths of depression and despair, earns four college degrees and becomes a well-respected assistant district attorney. But *I Dream of Things That Never Were* is about more than overcoming adversity. It is also a love story that leads Ken to marry the woman of his dreams and become the father of triplet boys.

Ken believes that everyone possesses certain innate abilities that help him or her to function and handle difficult situations. He is convinced that: "We all also possess an inner strength that enables us to rise to the occasion and tackle what may seem to be almost insurmountable odds. How that inner strength is used will make the difference between someone who is good and someone who is great."

"I've long known the story of Ken Kunken. As a kid, it was a cautionary tale," says Jim Axelrod, the chief investigative correspondent at CBS News. "But this book is a powerful reminder that Ken's story is so much more than that—it is one of triumph and inspiration. His life has been a master class in determining the trajectory of our lives, no matter the obstacles and challenges we face."

"Brilliant. Authentic. A life lesson in tenacity and resilience. And a most beautiful love story!" wrote John D. Kemp, President & CEO, Lakeshore Foundation, "This is the best book I've ever read that describes, in real ways, how life goes on after a shocking college football injury. How everyone can direct their own lives, maintain their dignity and self-respect, be hopeful of living a full life of one's own choosing, in the face of such extreme adversity."

Ken's book gives wonderful insights into the lows and highs he and his wife Anna experienced. Their journey is a study of the power of the human spirit – to love and be loved, to respect and to be respected, to grow together to create a magnificent family and contribute to our communities in deeply meaningful ways as citizens rightfully belonging in our lives.

*I Dream of Things That Never Were: The Ken Kunken Story* is available from <u>Amazon</u>, <u>Baker&Taylor</u> and <u>Twelve Tables Press</u>. For more information, a review copy of the book, or to schedule an interview with the author, please get in touch using the press contact below.

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## **Product Specifications:**

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**About Kenneth J. Kunken:** Ken worked in the Nassau County District Attorney's Office for more than 40 years. He was promoted a number of times, eventually becoming a Deputy Bureau Chief of the County Court Trial Bureau. Before Ken attended law school, he worked for more than two years as a vocational-rehabilitation counselor for individuals with severe disabilities at Abilities Inc. in Albertson, New York.

Ken stopped working full-time at the DA's Office on April 30, 2016, although he has continued to work there in a part-time capacity. He also still serves as a member of the Board of Directors at the Viscardi Center and occasionally delivers inspirational/motivational talks to various groups and organizations.

Ken lives on Long Island, New York with his wife Anna and their three sons, Joey, Jimmy, and Timmy.

**About Twelve Tables Press:** Twelve Tables Press is an independent legal trade and education press located in historic Northport, New York. The press was founded with a unique intent -- to champion the individuals in law who have made a mark on our society, as scholars, eyewitnesses, or pioneers in shaping the United States legal system. The press publishes original works by and about America's leaders in law that inform the general public, students, attorneys, and other professionals of the historical events, people, opinions, and writings that have changed and defined American law, jurisprudence, and society. Twelve Tables Press showcases the individual author with a story to tell, rich, personal texts that offer a glimpse into the art of lawyering.