

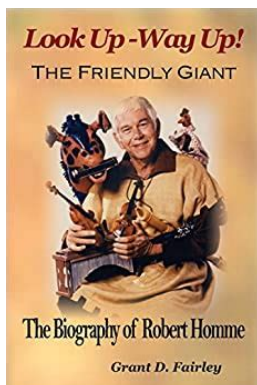
Look Up Way Up: The Friendly Giant - The Biography Of Robert Homme

Have you ever wondered about the person behind the beloved character of The Friendly Giant? The one who entertained and educated generations of children with his gentle demeanor and catchy tunes? Meet Robert Homme, the man behind the giant. This article will take you on a journey through his life, from his childhood to his remarkable career in children's television.

Early Life and Education

Robert Homme was born on December 29, 1919, in Stoughton, Wisconsin. Growing up in a musical family, his love for music was nurtured from an early age. He started playing the piano and singing in his church choir, showcasing his natural talent.

After graduating from high school, Homme enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served during World War II. This experience influenced him greatly and instilled in him a sense of discipline and resilience, which would later benefit him in his television career.



Look Up - Way Up! The Friendly Giant - The Biography of Robert Homme

by Grant D. Fairley (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 266 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 148 pages



Entering the World of Broadcasting

Following his military service, Homme pursued a degree in radio and television broadcasting at the University of Minnesota. He honed his skills and developed a deep understanding of the medium, which set the stage for his future success.

After completing his education, Homme worked at various radio and TV stations, gaining invaluable experience and refining his craft. It was during this time that he began to develop his idea for a children's television program that would become The Friendly Giant.

The Birth of The Friendly Giant

Robert Homme's vision for The Friendly Giant was to create a show that would engage and educate children in a unique way. His gentle nature, combined with his musical talent, led him to develop the central character of the giant.

The Friendly Giant premiered on Canadian television in 1958 and soon became a beloved program, known for its comforting atmosphere and memorable characters, such as Rusty the Rooster and Jerome the Giraffe. The show featured Homme playing the acoustic guitar and singing songs that captivated young audiences.

Legacy and Impact

Robert Homme dedicated over three decades of his life to The Friendly Giant, captivating the hearts of children and adults alike. His warm and welcoming

personality made him a role model for many, emphasizing the importance of kindness, curiosity, and imagination.

The show's unique format, with its slow pace, allowed children to reflect and appreciate the magical moments unfolding on screen. Homme's ability to connect with his audience through song and storytelling played a significant role in the program's enduring popularity.

Robert Homme retired from television in 1985 but continued to make guest appearances and remained an advocate for children's education. He was honored with numerous awards for his contributions to the industry, including induction into the Order of Canada in 1997.

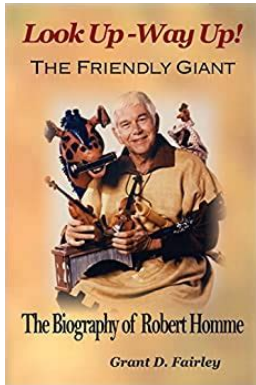
A Lasting Tribute

After his passing in 2000, Robert Homme's legacy lives on through the countless lives he touched with *The Friendly Giant*. The show continues to be cherished by generations, with its episodes being shared and enjoyed by children and nostalgic adults alike.

The spirit of Robert Homme, the gentle giant who taught us to always look up and dream big, remains a guiding force in children's television. His story serves as an inspiration, reminding us of the power of kindness and the lasting impact we can have on others.

So, the next time you watch an episode of *The Friendly Giant*, take a moment to reflect on the man behind the giant, Robert Homme, and the incredible journey he embarked on to bring magic and joy into the lives of children everywhere.

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Stroll back to your childhood with this book on the life and career of one of television's most memorable and endearing characters - The Friendly Giant. This show was part of the lives of generations of children, parents and grandparents who would wait to see the boot, watch the castle draw bridge lower and choose a chair by the fireplace weekday mornings on the NET (now PBS) Network in the U.S. and later CBC television in Canada.

Memories of Friendly, Rusty, Jerome and the others will return as you read about this remarkable man and those who were a part of this great story.

Grant D. Fairley was one of those children who grew up watching Friendly in Windsor, Ontario. Years later, he made the trip to Grafton, Ontario to meet Bob Homme and begin work on this authorized biography. Their many interviews during his retirement and the opportunity to meet others in Bob's story are here now for you to share.

Readers say...

I just finished reading "Look Up - Way Up" and it was a delight. Grant Fairley has explored the world of Friendly and left the wonder intact!

Barbara from Lucan

I really enjoyed reading the book so much that every time I would finish reading each chapter in the book I just couldn't put it down...a very good read...

Aaron from Toronto

The book was very captivating and brought you to a place and time that was very special and imaginary. Thank you for letting me sit in that rocking chair by the fire again.

Jill from Brampton

I read it and enjoyed it very much. The second book I bought is for my sister - she will love it also.

Randall from Washington

In reading the book, it brought me back to time when my life was that of a child. No worries, no real problems, and a safe environment. The book is very easy and enjoyable reading with some wonderful insights into Bob "The Friendly Giant" and his life. Well done!

Jack from Burlington

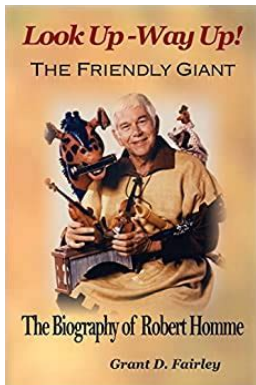
Your descriptions and the memories you included summoned up instant pictures in my mind. (you actually made me cry in one spot!) It was certainly a walk down memory lane with all your references to things from my childhood - the cartoons,

the other children's programming (like Captain Kangaroo & Romper Room) - all came flooding back as I continued to read.

Karen from Petrolia

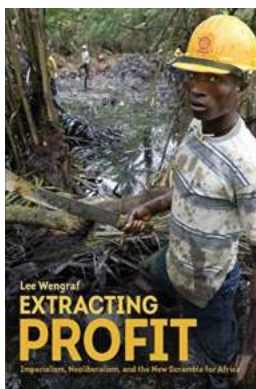
The charm and sincerity of “The Friendly Giant” are eloquently captured in this insightful and affectionate biography of the classic children’s entertainer. Grant blends the fond memories of his own childhood as a faithful TV fan of “Friendly” with insights into what made Bob Homme the true giant he was.

Hal Sullivan, Editor Windsor Life Magazine



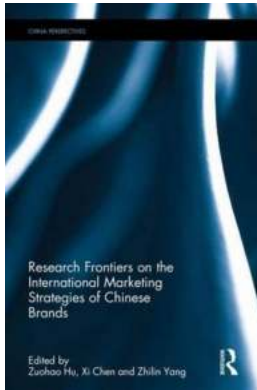
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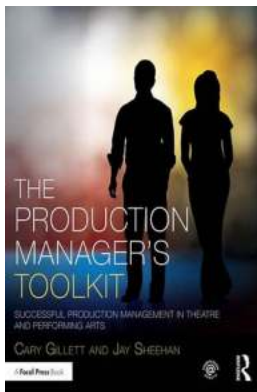
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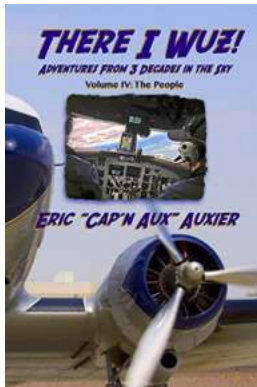
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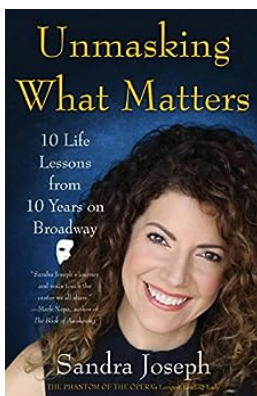
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