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**In *Strictly Right*, Linda Bridges and John R. Coyne Jr.
provide an insider's look at the heart and soul of the
American conservative movement – William F. Buckley Jr.**

New York, NY – The name William F. Buckley Jr. has been a household word for American conservatives for half a century. The public life is well known, from his sensational debut as an author with the best-selling *God and Man at Yale*, to his founding of *National Review*, to his decades as a leading public speaker and as host of television's *Firing Line*. What has not been much explored – until now – is the **personal side** of Buckley: the Southern heritage beneath the New England manner; his relationships with his wife, son, siblings, friends, and colleagues; the quirky set of strengths and talents that have earned him universal recognition as a writer, editor, debater, polemicist, and founding father of the American conservative movement.

Linda Bridges and John R. Coyne Jr. were both hired for *National Review* by Buckley himself. Bridges has stayed there ever since, first in the editorial department, more recently as Buckley's literary assistant. Coyne was soon hired away as a speechwriter by Spiro Agnew, eventually moving to Chicago as chief speechwriter for Amoco Corp., but has maintained his ties to the magazine and to Buckley. In *Strictly Right: William F. Buckley Jr. and the American Conservative Movement*, they weave an intricate web of the defining moments of Buckley's life in the context of the movement he founded.

Bridges and Coyne reveal little known details about Buckley, including how:

- He once took the *National Review* staff to the Soviet Union, so they could witness firsthand the place that bulked so large in the magazine's pages.
- He insists on the importance of humor in relaying the conservative message. In instructing young editors in their craft, he would say, "Don't kill any of the jokes."
- Despite his well-earned reputation as a polemicist, he hates confrontation over personal matters.

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger writes of the book, "*Strictly Right* paints an intimate and penetrating portrait of the elegant and multifaceted figure who has helped to add a new dimension to the American political canvas." Ambassador Evan G. Galbraith writes: "Bill and I and others have been good friends for almost sixty years and I thought I knew of his life as well as anyone, but Linda and John have brought the events together in a magnificent story that surpasses all that we have absorbed."

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For more information on *Strictly Right*, or to schedule an interview with Linda Bridges, please contact Kristen Schremp at Kristen@kaspublicity.com or 703.928.5527