



## ***Bridging the Chesapeake: A 'Fool Idea' that Unified Maryland***

by David W. Guth

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### **Bay Bridge book explores Maryland historical, cultural and political rivalries**

The story of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and its role in bridging the historical, cultural, political and geographical divide between people of Maryland's Eastern and Western Shores is the subject of a new book from Old Line Publishing of Hampstead, Md.

*Bridging the Chesapeake: A 'Fool Idea' that Unified Maryland*, written by Maryland native David W. Guth, traces the four-century long rivalry between the state's two shores and the long struggle over whether and where to build a bay bridge. It also explores the unintended consequences that followed the opening the bridge in 1952 and its parallel span in 1973.

While much of the book's focus is on the Eastern Shore – Western Shore rivalry, *Bridging the Chesapeake* also exams the sometimes rough-and-tumble world of Maryland politics. With the advent of the automobile in the early 20th century, a variety of competing interests emerged, each with its own vision of how best to move cars and people across Chesapeake Bay. Baltimore and Washington merchants were also concerned that they were losing access to the Eastern Shore's agricultural and seafood bounty to nearby Philadelphia. The book also focuses on the rivalry and vision of two former Maryland governors, William Preston Lane, Jr. and Theodore Roosevelt McKeldin.

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## About the Author

David W. Guth was born in Baltimore on November 8, 1952. His family moved to Talbot County on Maryland's Eastern Shore in October 1955. Guth graduated from Easton High School in June 1970. He received a B.A. in Radio-Television-Speech from the University of Maryland in 1973 and an M.A. in Journalism from the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill in 1990. Guth is an associate professor at the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of Kansas. Prior to joining the faculty in August 1991, he served in several public information positions within the administration of North Carolina Governor Jim Martin. He was also a broadcast journalist in five states and is a recipient of numerous reporting honors, including the prestigious Peabody Award. He is also the co-author of three textbooks and the award-winning *Media Guide for Attorneys* published by the Kansas Bar Association.

## About the Publisher

Old Line Publishing is a rapidly growing online publisher of books and periodicals. The company prides itself on being a blend of traditional publishing and state-of-the-art publishing. Since its beginning in 2006, Old Line Publishing has focused on creating, marketing, distributing and retailing high quality books and periodicals. Old Line Publishing has set itself apart from its competitors by offering high quality publishing services to both new and established authors and incorporating digital printing services for all their catalog titles. Old Line Publishing works one on one with every individual author to provide each author with a top quality book.



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