

GREAT CHICAGO FIRES

HISTORIC BLAZES THAT SHAPED A CITY

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About the Author

David Cowan was born in Chicago in 1963. He co-authored, with John Kuenster, the critically acclaimed book about the Our Lady of the Angels school fire, *To Sleep With the Angels: The Story of a Fire* (1996, Ivan R. Dee). The authors' investigative journalism for the book yielded answers to many lingering questions about the deadly elementary school tragedy and helped heal a Chicago community devastated by the loss of 92 children and three nuns.

A U.S. Air Force veteran, former award-winning newspaper reporter, firefighters' union organizer, and longtime Chicago-area firefighter, Cowan holds degrees in journalism and political science from Southern Illinois University. Now an independent journalist, Mr. Cowan has written for major newspapers and magazines and has appeared in numerous television documentaries about historic fires. He still resides in Chicago.

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