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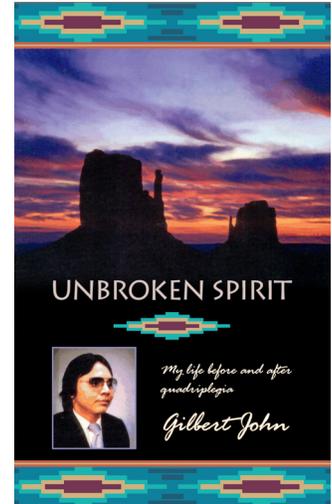
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*Amador Publishers is proud to announce the re-issue of
Gilbert John's inspiring autobiography in a new digital edition*

UNBROKEN SPIRIT
My Life Before and After Quadriplegia
by Gilbert John

ISBN 978-0-938513-67-4; digital formats; 95,500 wds. \$4.99



Between the ancient traditions of his community and the unfamiliar standards of boarding school, Gilbert John's youth straddled not only two cultures but two eras, for modernization came late to the Navajo reservation. His energy was boundless, his thirst for freedom tempered by devotion to family and a determination to succeed. A tragic accident left Gilbert a quadriplegic at age 17, yet he would go on to earn his bachelor's degree, to create art, to travel, to live independently in a pre-ADA world, and ultimately to become a powerful advocate and role model for people with disabilities on and off the reservation. Gilbert wrote and published his story despite cultural taboos against such public revelations, because when he needed a story about someone like himself, a Native American who had a spinal cord injury like his, he found none. Now there is one.

This title was originally published in print in 2009 by an Arizona press. Not long after, the author reached out to Amador Publishers with concerns about distribution. Although it has taken time to assume the publishing rights, we have been committed to bringing this valuable work back into circulation. Our first task was to issue an affordable digital edition immediately, to fulfill Gilbert's mission of providing this resource to those most in need of his encouragement and experience. To that end, we have faithfully reproduced the content of the first print edition with only minor corrections and a few revisions to better accommodate the e-book format. A revised and expanded Second Edition in print and digital formats is in the works, and an audio edition is also planned.

About the Author: In 1957 Gilbert John was born to the Navajo People in Gallup, New Mexico. He was named in Navajo *Hashke' Yitaaswod* — He ran amongst the warriors. An accident in the summer of 1975 left Gilbert a quadriplegic. He finished his high school education at the rehab school of Carrie Tingley Hospital and was able to graduate from Tohatchi High School with his classmates in 1977. Gilbert continued his education despite many obstacles and interruptions, earning his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of New Mexico in 1988.

In Gilbert's young life before the accident, he had many experiences and accomplishments in school academics and athletics, rodeo competitions, silversmithing, and Native American dance. After his accident, Gilbert met many more challenges, and undertook a surprising number of activities and travels. Eventually he returned to his family in the Four Corners area of New Mexico, began writing his autobiography, and became an advocate for people with disabilities. He has served in the following advocacy and advisory positions:

2003 - 2005, vice president/acting president, Navajo Nation Advisory Council on Disability (formerly Navajo Nation Handi-Capable; the name was changed under Gilbert's leadership)

2004 - 2010, Board member, Governor's Commission on Disability, New Mexico Technology Assistance Project of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

2006 - 2012, two-term Board member, Statewide Independent Living Council, representing Northwest NM.