**Bud, Not Buddy Assignment**

**We read the book *Bud, not Buddy* in class. In the afterword, the author challenges students with the following admonition.**

*Much of what I discovered about the depression I learned through research in books, which is a shame–I didn’t take advantage of the family history that surrounded me for many years.  I’m afraid that when I was younger and my grandparents and parents would start to talk about their lives during the depression, my eyes would glaze over and I’d think, “Oh, no, not those boring tall tales again!” and I’d find the most convenient excuse I could to get away from them.  Now I feel a real sorrow when I think of all the knowledge, wisdom and stories that have been forever lost with the deaths of my grandparents.*

*Be smarter than I was:  Go talk to Grandma and Grandpa, Mom and Dad, and other relatives and friends.  Discover and remember what they have to say about what they learned growing up.  By keeping their stories alive you make them, and yourself, immortal.*

**The English class homework assignment is to find somebody born before 1960, a grandparent, aunt, uncle, other family member, or friend to interview. By October 18, students should have had time to interview this person and obtain information to write an essay. Students should bring their interview NOTES to class, and we will turn the NOTES into an essay. After each student finishes his essay, we will publish them on a computer and make a class book of stories for everyone to read.**

**THE ASSIGNMENT**

**Select a relative or close family friend who was born before 1960. Number your paper and make sure you answer all questions completely. Try to get as many specific details as possible. If you do not have all this information, you will NOT be able to complete your essay.**

**INTERVIEW DUE OCTOBER 18**

1. **What was life like when you were a child? How was it different from today?**
2. **What was school like when you were a child?**
3. **What games did you play? Describe how you played the games.**
4. **What did the clothes you wore look like? How were they different from today?**
5. **Describe the foods/meals you liked to eat? What was your favorite food? What kind of restaurants did you enjoy?**
6. **What did you do for entertainment? What movies, TV, music did you enjoy?**
7. **Describe in detail the events of a childhood story you will never forget. Were you surprised, embarrassed, injured, frightened or angry? Maybe you got in trouble, or perhaps it is a holiday you will never forget. Please tell the whole story with lots of details.**
8. **Describe an historic event you remember from your childhood. How did it affect your emotions or your life? Where were you when it occurred? (*Choose ONE only: The Great Depression, Pearl Harbor, WWII, Vietnam War, the Civil Rights movement, JFK assassination, Space flights – moon, first orbit, 911, etc., or any other event in history that impacted your life.)***