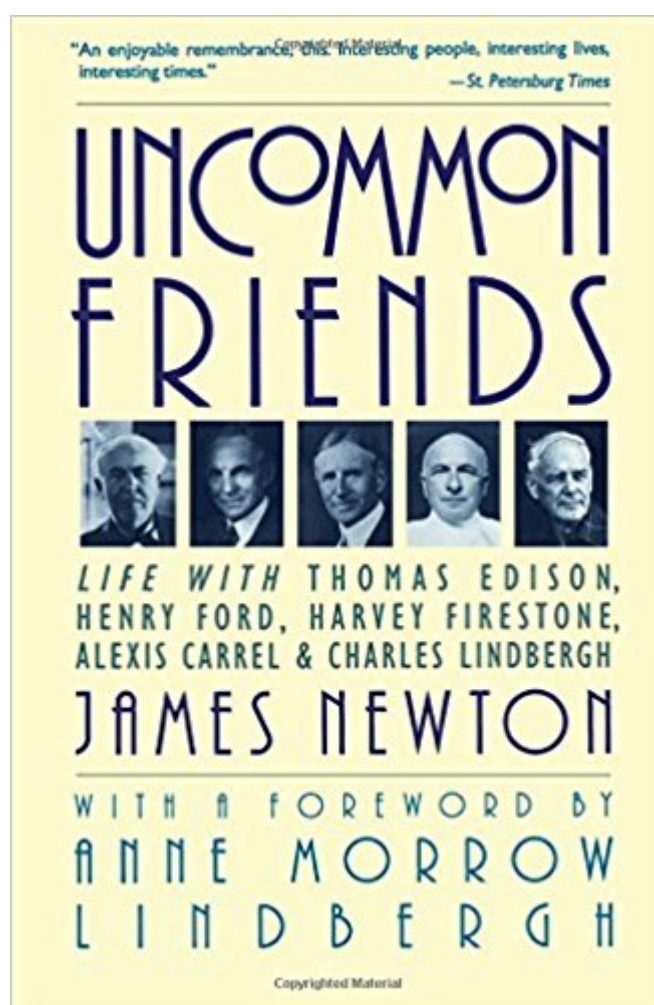


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Uncommon Friends: Life With Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, Alexis Carrel, And Charles Lindbergh



Synopsis

Newton engagingly recalls a lifetime of friendship with five giants of the twentieth century. Foreword by Anne Morrow Lindbergh; Index; photographs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Now in his 80s, real-estate developer Newton recalls with uncritical admiration five celebrated men with whom he enjoyed almost filial relationships. According to the author, they all shared the same philosophy of life, enouncing business principles in terms of moral precepts. Newton's bonds with Carrel and with the scientist's friend and partner in medical research, Lindbergh, were forged by their common interest in metaphysics. The narrative is studded with anecdotes about the nature of these men: Edison's assertion that his deafness was an asset; Ford's dictum that profit is essential to business vitality; Firestone's advocacy of Japanese-style "consensus" management; Carrel's expectation of encountering Aristotle after death; and Lindbergh's revulsion at the destruction wrought by aviation in WW II. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Read this book for book club, and felt very in tune with the time of the book and loved the people involved due to the author's friendship and respect for all the people he talks about. This book is not on Kindle and should be, although there is a lot of photographs which do not always download well on Kindle. With prime shipping, I received it in 2 days, and always sends everything to me in excellent condition.

I found this very easy and informative reading about some of the most important men of the industrial age. You will really enjoy this if you are at all interested in history and historical figures. It is well written, interesting and easy to read.

As a resident of SW Florida, I was interested in learning more about Edison and Ford, whose friendship is reflected in their side by side winter homes in Fort Myers. I enjoyed this book immensely. James Newton is a wonderful story teller that brings to life the complex social and business relationships of titans like Ford, his friend Firestone, and his older "mentor" Edison.... among many others like Charles Lindburgh. What sets this book apart is the historical context and behind the scenes felling of hearing it from someone who was really there. I learned a great deal about the business environment in their day as well. I'm in my 30s and could not put this book down.

Our sister-in-law was so impressed with this book, and was so sure that it would be a book my husband would absolutely love, that she mailed her copy to him. And she was right; he hasn't stopped talking about it since he read it through in record time, which is the way he reads most books. I hope to read the book myself and that is why I ordered it.

This book originally caught my eye as an addition to another book I read called Edison: A Life of Invention by Paul Israel. I wanted a book that would cover a little more of Edison's personal life, and this book did just that. However, James Newton's close, dedicated friendships with all of these great men of the twentieth century is truly amazing, and I learned more than I would probably learn

otherwise about some of these important historical figures. The entire book is fascinating, and surely different parts will appeal to different readers. I was particularly enchanted with a poignant description of how Charles Lindbergh handled dying as he lay on his deathbed. I was also fascinated with how environmentally conscientious some of these men were, particularly Edison and Lindbergh, but also Ford. For example, Ford was very interested in making automobile parts out of soybeans in order to reduce the need for metal parts. It seems that all of these men had numerous ideas and ideas for inventions that were way ahead of their time - perhaps some of them still are. Newton's writing is quite good, and I only have one very minor criticism: it seems that he preaches a little bit and dwells on the religious facet of his relationships with these people. Of course, I'm sure this was a very important part of his relationship with these men and their families, but it seems that there is a grand, overarching agenda he has in constantly illustrating their connection to God and religion. If you are interested in any of these historical figures and their fascinating relationships with each other, this book is definitely the best book you will find on the subject.

I have an autographed copy elsewhere, and because of the wonderful true stories about these brilliant men I just had to get another copy for where I am living now. It is a can't put it down book - very light, but amazing to be a part of their lives.

I discovered this book by accident. It is just so very interesting/intriguing, that this one seemingly common man named James Newton, while living an ordinary life, became friends with 5 famous people, 4 of which are American icons! An absolutely unique fate and American experience. Published in 1987, it only took me 26 years to discover this book.....I am glad I did. Dr. Stanley E. Toompas, Optometrist & Author of, "I'm the One the Other Isn't"

What a great book about the hearts and minds that built America.

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