



Julie Hedgepeth Williams grew up hearing the story of the Titanic firsthand from her great-uncle, Albert Caldwell, who survived the tragic 1912 shipwreck along with his wife, Sylvia, and infant son, Alden. Julie was so inspired by Albert's Titanic story that she majored in history (and English) at Principia College in Elsah, Illinois. After spending most of the 1980s as a newspaper reporter in Clinton, North Carolina, she went back to school at the University of Alabama, getting a master's and PhD, both focusing on media history. She is the past president of the American Journalism Historians Association, and she teaches part-time at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. She also travels around the country (and occasionally out of the country), talking about the Caldwells' Titanic experience and performing as Sylvia in a one-woman show, all based on her book, *A Rare Titanic Family*. She and her husband, Evan, live in a house that was built a year before the Titanic. Their sons are Weston and Alden. Julie is happy to be back in the Midwest and proud to be honored in Albert Caldwell's home territory. Albert grew up in Breckenridge, Missouri, and met Sylvia in college in Parkville, Missouri.