

A Tribute to John and Mollie Borders

This is a memorial tribute to our parents, Albert John Welsey Borders (1914-1971), born in Kings Mountain, North Carolina, and Mollie Spencer Borders (1917-1993), born in Charleston, South Carolina.

Our father's mother, Mary Emeritt Mauney Borders, died shortly after inhaling smoke during a hospital fire. Our father was only six years old. This tragedy left our grandfather with six daughters and one son, our father, John. The family was then spread among various relatives.

When our grandfather remarried, some of the children rejoined him. Unfortunately, their stepmother wasn't always pleasant toward them. However, in spite of this and other hardships, our father finished Shelby High School.

A few years later, our father moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There, his sister, Maudeline, introduced him to our mother. They fell in love and married in January, 1938. Their union produced ten children. One newborn died mysteriously in the hospital.

Our mother loved children, was a good housewife, and could stretch a dollar. In addition to being a parent, our mother worked at various times as a tack welder, waitress, and for many years as a practical nurse. She died of colon cancer at age 76.

When our father arrived in Philadelphia, he was short of money, but long on talent. His skills included assisting a mortician, chauffeuring, carpentry, painting, repairing small appliances, plumbing, ng, cooking, and roofing. His penmanship was beautiful and also he could draw (several of his children imitated this ability). Like most Mauneys, he loved to talk.

He became a first-class welder (helped build and repair ships during W W II) to support his growing family. For a while, he worked two jobs - welding and taxi driving - until he collapsed from exhaustion. For many years, he supplemented welding with barbering and doing handyman jobs.

He died at age 57 after suffering the ravages of metastasized lung cancer. At his death, he had supported a family of 11 and left our mother two houses, life insurance proceeds, numerous U.S. Savings Bonds, and Social Security benefits.

By example, he imparted to us the following values:

Take work seriously

Always do your best in any endeavor

Respect everyone

Exercise your vote

Read the newspaper

Get as much education as possible and

Love your family

The Borders Family

Family Reunion

Roberts Borders Mauney Howell Briggs and Related Families

