

Raymond Foss' Biography:

I was born April 1, 1960 in Westfield, Massachusetts, the oldest of five children. My family moved to Claremont, New Hampshire in 1976 after my sophomore year in high school. I attended the University of New Hampshire where I obtained a Bachelor of Arts in 1982 in Political Science. After graduation and earning a Master of Public Administration, I spent 17 years working at the University of New Hampshire.

I went back to school in 2001, attending Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, NH. In May 2004 I earned my Juris Doctor and a Master of Education Law. I passed the New Hampshire Bar and was sworn in as an attorney in October 2004. I started my own practice in the summer of 2006.

I started writing poetry while serving on the Barrington, New Hampshire School Board in 2000. Each of the administrators and school board members were given an assignment by the Reading Specialist, Marcy Dovholuk, to bring a piece of poetry to read at the April 20, 2000 board meeting in honor of National Poetry Month. When one of my first two poems received a favorable reaction, I began to write poetry more regularly.

I am a member of Suncook United Methodist Church in Suncook, NH. I met my wife at our former church, Wesley United Methodist Church, in Concord, NH, in the Summer of 2004, after I sat for the NH Bar exam, during our contemporary worship service, Rejuvenation.

We got to know each other in a Disciple I 34-week bible study class. We started dating on 10/16/04, I proposed on 11/9/04, and we were married on 12/17/04 outdoors on the stone bridge in White Park in Concord, across from the Law School. We renewed our vows before our church family on 4/23/05. I gained a wonderful wife Ruth (who lives up to her biblical namesake in terms of loyalty), and daughters Erica (now 14), Shyanne (now 10), and Shanequa (now 9).

Ruth is now a Local Pastor serving as one of the two pastors at Suncook United Methodist Church and she is following God's call to ordained ministry. I am very blessed.

One of those blessings is God's gift of poetry. I only discovered that gift in the spring of 2000. Since then, I have written a total of over 11,400 poems, including over 4,800 in the last year alone. Of these, over 11,400 are on my poetry web site, Poetry Where You Live (www.raymondafoss.blogspot.com). That site also has a number of links and has well over 896 of my photographs. Over 10,900 of my posted poems are about my faith. With companion sites, more than 42,000 copies of my poems are on the web. They have been read by people in over 175 countries. As I have said on the Famous Poets and Poems site (www.famouspoetsandpoems.com), "People say that a picture speaks a thousand words. With poetry, I can paint a picture, capture a moment, a smell, a scene in a handful of words."

Raymond A. Foss
April 4, 2011