

A TRIBUTE TO EDESEL FORD  
by  
Fort Smith Little Theatre

DIRECTOR

Ron Watson

PRODUCER

Sammie Brown

LAISON

Hank Spruce

CAST

Jerry Davis  
Brad Kidder

Bob Hughart  
John Dupont  
Burley Johnston

Marilyn Shuller  
Marjorie Johnston

PART I

ON LIFE

On Dying in the Country  
Midsummer  
I Knew When I Was a Vibrant Boy  
Letter from Home  
Elegy

Sunday Creek  
Alternate  
This Shore Unchanged  
Lines Before Rain  
Things of the Moment

NIGHT OF THE FOX

LOVE IS A WEED - (Song)

ON LOVE

A House Has a Way  
A Sly Fox Waiting  
Your Absence Does Not Grieve Me

Before the World Ends  
I Wish, I Wish to God  
The Power of a Woman

ON THE COUNTRY

Burning of the Horse  
Bound to Stay

At the County Fair

INTERMISSION

PART II

ON HUMANITY

Actor  
A Call to Greatness  
Low Mass for Hyannis

Iconoclast  
On a Warm Winter Day  
Morning Song

ON WAR

Taps  
For One Who Died at Sea  
Everyman

The Survivors  
Fred is Dead  
Mr. Gidion Goes to Berchtesgaden

THE DAY BRIGHTWATER BLEW AWAY (Song)

ON CHILDREN

To Give a Child a Book  
To be a Book

Inscription for a Book Mark  
Child in a Bookstore

YEAR OF THE GREAT WHITE GOOSE

ON DYING IN THE COUNTRY

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Proceeds from this production will go to the Edsel Ford Memorial Fund of the Poetry Society of America.

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Johnston's Quality Flowers

CREDITS

ORIGINAL MUSIC - Amy Ball Johnston, Rod Hocott  
 MUSIC - Arranged by John Winkelmann  
 FLUTES - Warren and Christine Edmisten  
 OBOE - Elaine Watkins  
 PIANO - John Winkelmann  
 SET - John Ayers  
 PUBLICITY - Janie Glover, John Ulmer  
 PROGRAM - Darlene Garner  
 COVER - "The Great White Goose" - Sammie Brown  
 COSTUMES - Kay Johnson, Linda Brown  
 LIGHTS - Jim Hammer  
 SOUND - George Glover  
 BOX OFFICE - Ed Drimmel



*A tribute to Edsel Ford*

# EDSEL FORD

## Selected Biographical Notes

EDSEL FORD was born Dec. 30, 1928, in Morgan County, Alabama, but grew to manhood on a small farm in northwest Arkansas, the scene of many of his poems.

A 1952 journalism graduate of the University of Arkansas, he was named recipient of a Distinguished Alumnus citation in 1966. The Edsel Ford Scholarship in Journalism was established the same year at the University of Arkansas.

Ford served two years (1952-54) with the U. S. Army in Germany, where his poems appeared in The Stars and Stripes. These were later collected in a small book titled This Was My War, edited by his friend and professor at the university, W. J. Lemke.

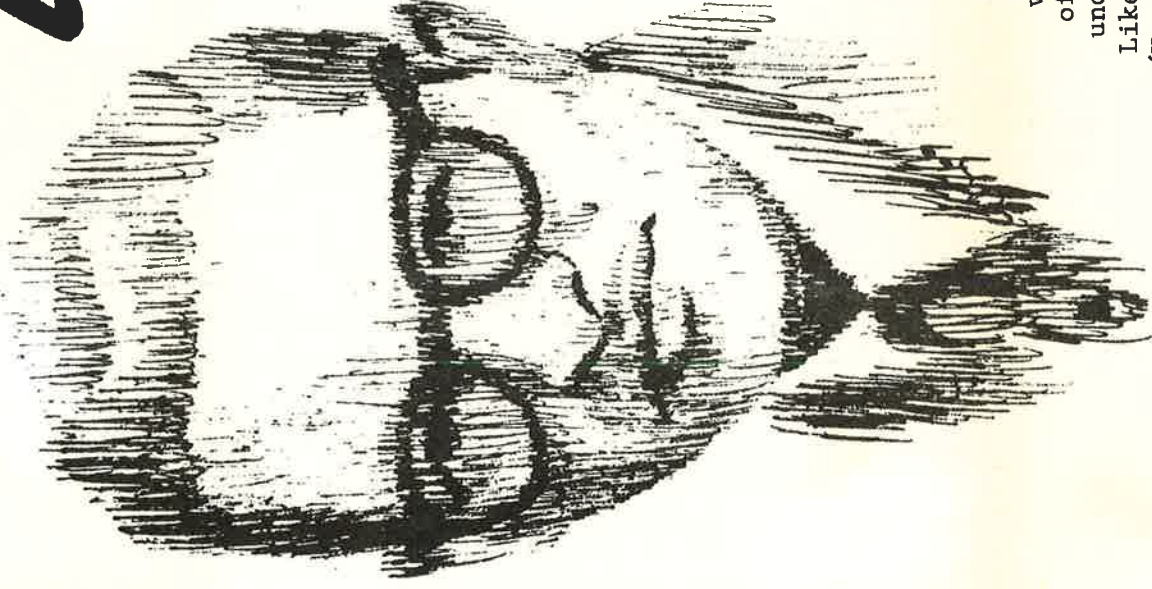
A manuscript of poems by Edsel Ford won the 1956 book publication contest of Kaleidograph Press and was published under title The Manchild from Sunday Creek. Like a subsequent volume, A Thicket of Sky (Homestead, 1961), it is out of print. In 1965 he published Love Is the House It Lives In (Homestead), now in second edition.

In 1965 Ford recorded selections from his work at the invitation of the Library of Congress, the first Arkansas poet since John Gould Fletcher to be so honored.

A member of The Poetry Society of America, Ford won two major prizes offered by that organization before winning the \$3,500 Alice Fay di Castagnola Award for a work in progress, in January 1966. He has also received top honors from the poetry societies of Georgia, Texas and Virginia.

Edsel Ford has published in some 150 periodicals, including Saturday Review, The New York Times, McCall's, Country Beautiful, The Christian Science Monitor, and many literary journals. His work is included in such anthologies as Frances Parkinson Keyes' A Treasury of Favorite Poems (Hawthorn, 1963) and Southern Writing in the Sixties: Poetry (Louisiana State University Press, 1967), and has been broadcast behind the Iron Curtain via Voice of America. He is listed in the latest Who's Who in America and The Blue Book of London.

LOOKING FOR SHILOH was the 1968 winner of the Devins Award, major prize of the annual Kansas City Poetry Contests sponsored by the Kansas City Jewish Community Center, Hallmark, the Kansas City Star, and the University of Missouri Press. LOOKING FOR SHILOH won in book-length manuscript over 452 others submitted from throughout the United States.



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