

Frankly Speaking Notes...

Published as time and opportunity permit, usually a few times a week.

3218 Timberland Trail, Euless, Texas 76040 – 817.247.6630

Ed Smithson, Editor

MY FRIEND JOHN

John died last Wednesday. It was a sad day for a lot of people. John was 90 years of age. I want to tell you about John.

John is John Boren, brother of Maxie Boren, gospel preacher and one of the elders of the Brown Trail church and Director of the Ft Worth Lectures, which concluded on the day John died.

I met John about five years ago. I have known others a lot longer so you may wonder why I am writing about John. Well, because John was an unusual man. He was a faithful Christian of the first order and it was at Worship service one Sunday morning that I met him. His brother Maxie, introduced him and his wife Jan to me that day.

John Boren was one of the sweetest men I have ever known. His attitude, conduct and demeanor was always positive. He reminded me of the late Byron Nelson, of whom it was told, that when he saw someone who asked him how he was doing, he would answer "better now that you are here."

Well, John was like that. He was my senior by 12 years and in the last couple had become quite feeble at times. Because I use a wheelchair I sit at the entrance of the auditorium, in the same place each Sunday. John always managed to get to me to speak and he would say, "I have to say hello to my friend." Even when he had to use a walker, sometimes he would get halfway to his seat, and would turn around and say, "I have to say hello to my friend." At other times he would say, "It is always comforting to me to see you here and always with that smile." How could you not like someone with that attitude.

I think all the Borens are that way or at least those whom I have met. Maxie and his wife Fran are very friendly and attentive to all kinds of people. I have got to know them better since I have been at Brown Trail and those who know the Boren family tell me they are all special. I know

John and Maxie's dad was a gospel preacher and he and his wife must have been something special to bring up a family like that.

Although I did not know John very long, I knew him long enough to appreciate his faithfulness to duty and his great attitude toward his fellowman.

There are a few scriptures that come to mind when I think of John and his passing. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works follow with them." (Revelation 13:14) "A friend loveth at all times;" (Proverbs 17:17) "...there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." (Proverbs 18:24)

God bless John Boren and his memory. All who knew him were better for it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Smithson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Ed Smithson
ed@oldpathspulpit.org
www.oldpathspulpit.org
January 14, 2011