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# First-Gen Voices: Creative and Critical Narratives on the First- Generation College Experience

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What can one say about a human life?  
Seventy-five years on earth, three children,  
Overcame pain and tears and years and strife,  
Their joys celebrated, their fears hidden --  
Isn't that what the good eulogies do?  
Yet pen and paper are hollow nods to  
The root-deep memories of a man who  
Died of stubbornness, held my young hand through  
The miles between the East and West Coasts, who  
Grew anything in his garden for you.  
No, this father of my father was far  
Too special for that, I find even these mere words too  
Paltry to describe his immense value,  
Unless you were to him what I was, his star