

Both of our parents were born in Alabama. They met at First Baptist in Foley post WW II when Jesse Folmar was a young USMC pilot stationed at Barin Field and Myrtle McNeil was living in an upstairs Apt where she also had her Beauty Shop that was located on the downtown corner across the street from the old library. Dad proposed while rowing down the Magnolia River.... In uniform... and Mom sweetly accepted. Soon the war was ramping up and their first duty station together was El Toro California where they settled in a tiny Laguna Beach apartment. They told great stories of the atmosphere in Southern California during that time in history. Dad was a fighter pilot flying a Corsair in the Pacific Theater and later in the Korean Conflict. Finding a good church to anchor them as they began a family was very important to them. There ended up being four little Folmar: Daneille, Kathy, Marsha and Greg. There were many moves but we always ended up back in Orange County. After 20 yrs. Dad retired and we planned to make Costa Mesa our forever home. Building a nice home there on Canyon Dr. Where on a clear day we could see Catalina. Church fellowship and growing in God was our life. But as the culture began to change it seemed the church did as well. We tried to adapt to another but the final decision was that the folks thought it would be best to raise four kids in a simple rural area and thus the move to Foley in 1960. They bought 20 beautiful acres and built a sturdy red brick ranch in the middle of a pecan orchard where we grew up happily and the parents remained for 46 years while we went off to college and scattered. During the 70s we began to hear great things from our California friends about some place called Calvary Chapel. It wasn't just a Church, it was a movement, a phenomenon, a work of God. And the truth is it's never stopped. The miracle is this: we never thought we would ever be a part of it, our prayers would be there with them but we'd be in Foley. Selling our homestead in circa 2007 we were bereft when the buyer tore down our home, then it just went to weed for a long spell and then we got the news that a church was building on the very footprint of our home... not just any church, but Calvary Chapel and yes the planters were coming from Costa Mesa California!!!! Jess and Myrtle Folmar dedicated this land to doing a faithful work for our Heavenly Father through raising their family, carefully preserving the land and its fruits and sharing their hospitality to many... including many old friends from Costa Mesa. We couldn't be happier that Calvary Chapel continues to sanctify our family home site. We will pray for you Pastor Joe... and your family and laborers and we know our parents are smiling from on high. So when you pass by and see the memorial sign for Jesse and Myrtle Folmar, know they were the first to spread a little California Sunshine on these forty acres. Thank you so much for all your help!

Daneille Folmar Combee