

The Origins Of Father's Day

Mrs. John B. Dodd of Washington first proposed the idea of a "Father's Day" in 1909. Mrs. Dodd wanted a special day to honour her father, William Smart. William Smart, a Civil War veteran, was widowed when his wife died in childbirth with their sixth child. He brought up all six children on his own, and it wasn't until Mrs. Dodd was an adult that she realized the many sacrifices he had made in bringing up his family alone.

The first Father's Day was observed on June 19,

1910, in Spokane, Washington. At about the same time in various towns and cities across America, other people were beginning to celebrate a "Father's Day."

In 1924 President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the third Sunday in June as Father's Day.

In Canada as well, Father's Day has become a day to not only honour your father, but all men who act as a father figure.

Roses are the Father's Day flowers: red to be worn for a living father and white if the father is dead.





