

<b>Storyteller:</b>	Brumfield, Elizabeth Jean	<b>Interviewer:</b>	Brumfield, Gloria
<b>Date:</b>	June 19, 2006	<b>Original StoryCorps Log Files:</b>	MBX001495_L1 MBX001495_L2

**Timecode Notes**

1:30	Important life lesson – that ordinary people’s stories matter, I saw there was a street named after my stepfather and I wanted to know what he did. There’s another street named after him, but they spelled it wrong.
2:15	Stepfather Dudley grew up in the South, dark black, tough as a hickory nut and just as tough to crack, his sister kept him in line. He was smart, told plantation owner to pay him the money they were owed.
9:30	His father a preacher; sharecropping “from can’t to can’t”
10:40	When Dudley told me these things, I didn’t want to hear it; it wasn’t until I got grown that I thought about what he said.
12:15	He was a very gentle man, hated to see brutality against black people, he stood up to a white man, told him he was wrong.
13:30	He didn’t talk about WW II service – he was on the Plunkett when it was bombed. He got no recognition, never got mustered pay.
15:15	He applied to the plumber’s union and it took 20 years to get in – he knew the children and grandchildren of the people who rejected him. One of the men who rejected him became a great admirer of Dudley.
17:30	The excuses of the plumber’s union for rejecting Dudley – not accepting applications, didn’t know he’s a plumber, too qualified.
19:30	Got into the union in 1968 – first \$500,000 bonded black contractor. Dudley was blamed for the mistakes of those under him. He was happy when he retired because he accomplished something.
21:20	Dudley taught me tenacity, survived two strokes. If it weren’t for him, there wouldn’t be any black people in the trades – 22 trades were represented in his lawsuit.
22:45	He was in Time magazine for his struggle.