

4-25-2012

## Bolton, Joseph Edward, 1961-1990 (MSS 404)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
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*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 404 BOLTON, Joseph Edward, 1961-1990**

1 box. 18 folders. 602 items. 1983-2012. Originals and photocopies.

2003.96.1

***BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE***

Joseph Edward Bolton was born on 3 December 1961 in Cadiz, Kentucky, the son of Ed and Nancy (Foster) Bolton. His parents were schoolteachers. Bolton attended public schools in Cadiz. He started his college studies at the University of Mississippi but transferred to Western Kentucky University (WKU) the following year. He graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor's of Arts degree from WKU, where he received the Jeffrey McCelvey Memorial Award and the Gordon Wilson Award. He then matriculated at the University of Florida (UF), where he received a Master's in English in 1988. He also finished all the requirements for a MFA from the University of Arizona. He did other graduate work at the University of Houston and at UF. For a brief period he taught creative writing at UF. Bolton committed suicide on 30 March 1990. He had a brief marriage while in Kentucky and was married for a short period in the late-1980s to Laurie Berry.

Bolton's highly biographical poetry received praise and was published in a number of literary journals. His *Breckinridge County Suite* was published by The Cummington Press in 1989. *Days of Summer Gone*, a collection of poems that had been used for his 1988 thesis at UF, was published by The Galileo Press in 1990. Donald Justice collected a large number of his poems in a posthumous book *The Last Nostalgia* published by the University of Arkansas Press in 1999. Justice had taught Bolton at the University of Florida.

***COLLECTION NOTE***

This collection contains the collected loose poems of Joseph E. Bolton (folders 13-18). The loose poems are arranged alphabetically by title. A folder of published poems is also included (folder 12) with bibliographical references. The bulk of the collection features Donald Justice's research notes and correspondence related to publishing a posthumous collection titled *The Last Nostalgia*. Justice corresponded with Bolton's father Ed and with one of his close college friends, Tonya Parsons, who provides information about Joe's life while attending WKU. The collection includes a small amount of biographical material about Bolton and reviews of *Days of Summer Gone* (1990), and the posthumous work *The Last Nostalgia* (1999).

**SHELF LIST**

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>Joseph E. Bolton</b>	<b>1983-2012</b>	<b>602 items</b>
Folder 1	Inventory and biographical information	1988-2012	10 items
Folder 2	Bibliographic listings of Bolton's poetry	1998	5 items
Folder 3	Paper by Bolton: "Clark's River Bottom & Kentucky Dam: A Remembrance"	1983	1 item
Folder 4	Untitled paper by Baron Wormser about Bolton's poetry	2001	1 item
Folder 5	Reviews of Bolton's book of poetry <i>Days of Summer Gone</i>	1990-1998	7 items
Folder 6	<i>The Last Nostalgia</i> – Research notes	1987-1998	8 items
Folder 7	<i>The Last Nostalgia</i> – Reviews and advertisements	1999	11 items
Folder 8	Correspondence of Donald Justice related to <i>The Last Nostalgia</i>	1988-1997	33 items
Folder 9	Correspondence of Donald Justice related to <i>The Last Nostalgia</i>	Feb.-Aug. 1998	56 items
Folder 10	Correspondence of Donald Justice related to <i>The Last Nostalgia</i>	Sept. 1998-2000	70 items
Folder 11	Epigraphs	n.d.	35 items
Folder 12	Published poetry	1988-2000	23 items
Folder 13	Poetry, A-B	n.d.	43 items
Folder 14	Poetry, C-G	n.d.	70 items
Folder 15	Poetry, H-L	n.d.	51 items
Folder 16	Poems, M-R	n.d.	67 items
Folder 17	Poems, S	n.d.	48 items
Folder 18	Poems, T-Z	n.d.	63 items

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD**

MSS BOLTON, Joseph Edward, 1983-2012  
404 1961-1990

Collected loose poems of Joseph E. Bolton, a native of Cadiz, Kentucky and a Western Kentucky University graduate. Bolton published two books of poetry in his lifetime. A posthumous collection, *The Last Nostalgia*, was edited by Don Justice and published in 1999. The bulk of the collection relates to Justice's research notes and correspondence regarding publication of *The Last Nostalgia*.

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**SUBJECT ANALYTICS**

Anderson, Jon V. B1,F9-10  
Berry, Laurie B1,F10  
Bolton, Edward – Correspondence B1,F8  
Bolton, Joseph Edward, 1961-1990 B1,F8  
Bolton, Joseph Edward, 1961-1990 – Comments about B1,F8  
Byrkit, Rebecca B1,F8-9  
Celser, Tonya (Parsons) – Correspondence B1,F9-10  
Clark's River – Relating to B1,F3  
Cox, Michael B1,F9  
*Days of Summer Gone* (Book) – Relating to B1,F5  
Eulogies B1,F8  
Justice, Donald Rodney, 1925-2004  
Kentucky Dam – Relating to B1,F3  
King, Brian – Correspondence B1,F10  
Klander, Sharon – Correspondence B1,F8-9  
*The Last Nostalgia* (Book) – Relating to B1,F6-10  
Orlen, Steve, 1942-2010 B1,F9  
Poetry  
Steele, Frank – Correspondence B1,F8-9  
Sullivan, John Jeremiah, b. 1974 B1,F9  
Wendell, Julia B1,F8  
Williams, Miller, b. 1930 B1,F8  
Wormser, Baron, b. 1948 B1,F4

**SEE or SEE ALSO**

Parsons, Tonya

See:

Cesler, Tonya (Parsons)

Jeffrey 04/25/2012