

THE MANWARING RAPP
(Story of Arthur and Teresa Manwaring)
By Kathleen Anderson (for the 2012 Manwaring reunion)

First came Marie and then came Holley
And then by golly was little Wanda.
After Basil there was Rondo
And last of all was baby Lorraine.
Mama Teresa, she smiled at it all
And Daddy Arthur stood proud and tall.

They lived in Blackfoot by the railroad tracks
And Arthur was a clerk in the office of tax.
The house was big with a funny old basement.
When the trains came by it would shake with amazement.

Along with the railroad the hobos came a-knockin'
Kindly Teresa fed them all so it got them talkin'.
They marked the house where the meals were plentiful.
And nary-a-one left till his belly was very full.

The Manwarings came from the country of Wales.
Known for musicians and tall, tall tales.
Arthur and Teresa carried on traditions
"Round the country they'd travel as duet musicians.

Dear, dear Arthur caught a bad ole sickness
And checked out early, leaving family fatherless.
Sweet little Teresa knew the bills were many
So she got a job at J.C. Penney.
As a widow with kids everyone pitched in
And they kept the big house on the street of Meridian.

The kids were all successful and careers were diverse.

From a postman to a cheeseman to a song writer of verse.
A wife of a rancher and a wife of a railroader.
And then, of course, was the Dr. of chiropractor.

The Manwarings grew a tall family tree
And that includes both you and me.
That was the start of the Manwaring clan,
So try to top that the best that you can.

Man-war-ings – oh Yeah!

You are to rap it to a 4/4 beat.