

According to Wikipedia, the modern holiday of Mother's Day began in 1908. Anna Jarvis wanted to honor her mother, a nurse for both sides during the civil war. The place it all began was St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, WV. It became a national holiday by 1911 and every generation since has carried on with honoring our wonderful Moms.

Anna's mother, whose name was Ann, had herself quite the life. She was the daughter of a Methodist minister and she married the son of a Baptist minister. She gave birth to at least 11 children but only 4 survived into adulthood. The others died of disease very young.

As a result, she became a major spokesperson for and educator of how to prevent diseases. She was really at the forefront of good hygiene practices and even had a part in the inspection of milk before it became a requirement.

The area of Virginia she lived in became West Virginia and the population was divided on the side they stood for. Even the church came close to separating but she never took a side in any of that, choosing to remain neutral and concerning herself with social justice.

She was quite the lady and to me a symbol of the greatness, wisdom, and compassion that all you Moms show each and every day to your children no matter how young or old. You're always there for us no matter what through thick and thin. Thank you, God, for that wonderful presence in our lives.