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### ***AN AUTHOR***

In the 1930s, his father came to New York City from an island in the Caribbean to look for work. The best he could find at the time was a job washing dishes. Still, the father went to night school, passed the eighth grade, and later worked as a guard for the U.S. Post Office. After 30 years in the States, the father returned to his Caribbean home where his children would grow up. The son would graduate from University, earn a B.A., and J.D degree, practice law in a federal agency, and eventually move to the States. First it was Washington, D.C., and later to Boston, where he continued his career as a litigating attorney with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

An inspiring story about immigrant success? Well, no. It's an inspiring story about an American family, for that Caribbean island is Puerto Rico, the residents of which are natural born citizens of the USA.

Several years ago, John David and Ana Luz Ferrer moved to a house across the street from the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church. This was a good location for them since Ana Luz, a practicing Catholic, could worship at nearby St. John's, and John David had only to cross the street to worship. Ana Luz and John David met in college and have been married for 48 years.

At the time they lived in Wellesley, John David was still working at the FDIC. Once they moved to Framingham, he retired and set up his private practice for nearly eleven years. He also became an Adjunct Professor at Boston University School of Law, where he had earned his LL.M. degree in Banking Law. Ana Luz was teaching Spanish in the Framingham Public Schools.

After the financial crash of 2008, John David received an urgent call from the FDIC. With so many banks failing, his legal services were needed. He responded to the call, where his responsibilities included providing legal support to the division charged with closing failing banks. He was sent to Kansas City, Miami, and San Juan, PR. After retiring for a second time, John David decided to do what he had always wanted to do, become a writer and tell stories about the Puerto Rican experience.

John David's first novel, *SIU/JFK* was published in March, 2013. Inspired by true events, it tells stories of the Puerto Rican Diaspora, of people who move from the island to the US, of families searching for steady jobs and new beginnings, and his first book is in part autobiographical.

He has just published his second novel, *Barcelona Borinquen*, stories of migrants who came to Puerto Rico from Spain to build a better life on the island. They survive hurricanes, experience betrayals, deaths and broken friendships, demonstrating the endurance of the human spirit.

Ana Luz and John David are proud of their US and Puerto Rican heritage. Ana's father was a veteran of World War II. John David served in the US Air Force as a member of the Judge Advocate Corps during the Vietnam Era and returned to Puerto Rico to join a Poverty Legal Services organization. In the service a daughter was born to them during David's last year in the military. Monica today lives in North Weymouth, MA.

John David has served the church in many roles during this 24 years of membership: as a Deacon, a Lay Reader, a Care Team member, an usher, a lay service reader, and as a volunteer for Family Promise and the Pumpkin Patch. He also taught a class at the church focused on life transitions.

John David is already planning his next book - [The Shape of Courage](#) - a story of brave Puerto Ricans fighting in the Korean War. It'll be a good read!

by *Elizabeth Robertson*