

**The Filson Historical Society**

**Helm, John L., 1915-2008  
Papers, 1925-2002**

For information regarding literary and copyright interest for these papers, see the Curator of Special Collections, James J. Holmberg

**Size of Collection:**

1 cubic feet

**Location Number:**

Mss./A/H478

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**Scope and Content Note**

The John L. Helm IV Papers include correspondence, charts, photographs, and notes regarding Helm's genealogy. The collection was created and assembled by Mr. John L. Helm IV who arranged the material into family-based binders. The collection also contains genealogy material for the Pope, Botts, Bohannons, McGowans, McCarroll, Hardin, and LaRue families. Additionally, collection materials provide an overview of Helm's life and achievements. Letters, clippings, and notes document Helm's civic engagement and detail the establishment of a permanent endowment by Helm and his wife to the Community Foundation of Louisville, Inc. (formerly Louisville Community Foundation, Inc.).

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**Biographical Note**

John LaRue Helm IV, the son of John L. Helm III and Anne Elizabeth Botts, was born in Louisville, Kentucky on 10 July 1915. After serving in the Air Force during the Second World War he began a career in the life insurance profession and married Julia (Judy) F. McClure. John and Judy Helm had two children, Mark Botts and Elizabeth Lee.

In 1983, Helm formed the firm, Helm, Creznic, & Ward, Inc. with colleagues. Helm received many professional distinctions but is best known for his civic engagement and charitable contributions. He served on the Louisville Junior Chamber of Commerce and was integral to the establishment of a war memorial on 5<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson Streets. In 1994 John and Judy Helm set up a permanent endowment with the Community Foundation of Louisville, Inc. (formerly Louisville Community Foundation, Inc.). Their endowment funds the Starfish Flinger Award, which is distributed by the Junior Achievement of Kentuckiana, Inc, and recognizes teachers, junior achievement consultants, and others who make a difference in education. John L. Helm died at home on February 17, 2008 at the age of 92.

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**Folder List**

**Box 1**

- Folder 1: Helm Family Genealogy Binder, Vol. I, 1987-1995
- Folder 2: Helm Family Genealogy Binder, Vol. II, 1972- 2002
- Folder 3: Helm Family Genealogy, 1932-1985
- Folder 4: Hardin Family Genealogy Binder, 1981-1995
- Folder 5: Botts Family Genealogy Binder, 1925-1990
- Folder 6: LaRue Family Genealogy Binder, 1996-1999
- Folder 7: Pope Family Genealogy Binder, 1971-1992

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**Subject Headings**

Botts family  
Community Foundation of Louisville - Endowment  
Endowments  
Hardin family  
Helm, John Larue. 1915-2008  
LaRue family  
Pope family