

The Measure of a Man

Not-How did he die? but-How did he live?
Not-What did he gain? but-What did he give?
These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of his birth

Not-What was his station? but-Had he a heart?
And-How did he play his God given part?
Was he ever ready with a word of good cheer,
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?

Not-What was his church? nor-What was his creed?
But-Had he befriended those really in need?
Not-What did the obituary in the newspaper say?
But-How many were sorry when he passed away?

These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

They Say There is a Reason,

They say there is a reason,
They say that time will heal,
But neither time nor reason,
will change the way we feel.

For no one knows the heartache,
That lies behind our smiles,
No one knows how many times,
We have broken down and cried.

We want to tell you something,
So there won't be any doubt,
You're so wonderful to think of,
But so hard to be without.

We cannot bring the old days back,
When we were all together,
The family chain is broken now,
But memories live forever.

Come to Me

God saw you getting tired,
and a cure was not to be,
so He put his arms around you
and whispered, "Come to Me."

With tearful eyes we watched you,
and saw you pass away,
and although we loved you dearly,
we could not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.

In Peace Go Home

Through veils of peace may you ascend
To promised planes above
Where comfort shall await you
In those summer lands of love
Although my grief is deep and raw
Although my pain is great
I know that you are still with me
I know that you will wait
For in God's time we'll meet again
Of this I am quite sure
I loved you so much on this earth
In absence even more

Life Goes On

If I should go before the rest of you
Break not a flower
Nor inscribe a stone
Nor when I am gone
Speak in a Sunday voice
But be the usual selves
That I have known
Weep if you must
Parting is hell
But life goes on
So sing as well

God Knew That You Were Suffering

God knew that you were suffering,
That the hills were hard to climb,
So He gently closed your eyelids,
And whispered "Peace be thine".

In tears we watched you sinking,
We watched you fade away.
Our hearts were nearly broken,
You fought so hard to stay.

But when we saw you sleeping,
So peaceful, free from pain,
We could not wish you back,
To suffer that again.

It broke our hearts to see you go,
But you did not go alone.
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.

Dad

God took the strength of a mountain
The majesty of a tree.
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea.

The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night.
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight.

Then God combined these qualities,
There was nothing more to add.
His masterpiece was now complete,
He lovingly called it, Dad.

Don't think of him as gone away

Don't think of him as gone away
His journey has just began
Life has many facets
This Earth is only one.

Think of him as resting
From the sorrows and the fears
In a place of warmth and comfort
Where there are no days or years.

Think of how he must be wishing
How we could know today
That nothing but our sadness
Can really pass away.

Think of him as living
In the hearts of those he touched
For nothing loved is ever lost
And he was loved so very much.

No farewells

No farewells were spoken
We did not say "goodbye,"
You were gone before we knew it
And only God knows why.

You left us precious memories
That made us laugh and cry,
But the love you planted in our hearts
No millionaire can buy.

If tears could build a stairway
And memories a lane,
We would walk right up to Heaven,
And bring you home again.

They say there is a reason

They say there is a reason,
They say that time will heal,
But neither time nor reason,
will change the way we feel.

For no one knows the heartache,
That lies behind our smiles,
No one knows how many times,
We have broken down and cried.

We want to tell you something,
So there won't be any doubt,
You're so wonderful to think of,
But so hard to be without.

We cannot bring the old days back,
When we were all together,
The family chain is broken now,
But memories live forever.

The Day God Called You Home

God looked around His garden and saw an empty space,
Then He looked down upon this earth, and saw your loving face.

He put his arms around you, and lifted you to rest,
His garden must have been beautiful, He always takes the best.

He knew that you were suffering, he knew you were in pain,
And knew that you would never get well on this earth again.

He saw your path was difficult, He closed your tired eyes,
He whispered "Peace be Thine" and gave you wings to fly.

When we saw you sleeping, so calm and free from pain,
We could not wish you back on earth, to suffer once again.
You've left us precious memories, your love will be our guide,
You live on through your children, you're always by our side.

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you, on the day God called you Home.

A loving father

A loving father, most sincere,
Loved by all he knew,
He loved us all so very dear,
And we all loved him too.

But God in his mercy will give us hope,
And help us bear the strain,
Of the one we cherished, loved and lost,
To meet in Heaven again.

As we look upon his picture,
Sweet memories we recall,
Of a face so full of sunshine,
And a smile for one and all.

What she suffered

What she suffered,
she told but few,
She did not deserve
what she went through,
Tired and weary she made no fuss,
But tried so hard to stay with us.

Two tired eyes are sleeping,
Two willing hands are still;
The one who worked so hard for us,
Is resting at God's will.

Our lips cannot speak how we loved her,
Our hearts cannot tell what to say,
But God only knows how we miss her,
In our home that is lonely today.

Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
We will always remember you.

Road To Eternity

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road,
To sweet Eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
But never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know,
For some the journey's quicker,
For some, the journey's slow.
But when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.

Only The Best

A heart of gold stopped beating,
two shining eyes at rest,
God broke our hearts to prove,
He only takes the best.

God knows you had to leave us,
but you did not go alone,
for part of us went with you,
the day He took you home.

To some you are forgotten,
to others just part of the past,
but to us who loved and lost you,
the memory will always last.

We Thought Of You

We thought of you today,
But that is nothing new.
We thought of you yesterday
And will tomorrow too.

We think of you in silence,
And make no outward show,
For what it meant to lose you,
Only those who love you know.

Remembering you is easy,
We do it every day.
It's the heartache of losing you,
That will never go away.

You are gone but not forgotten,
For we love you just the same.
We have wonderful memories of you,
And your picture in a frame.

We think of how the Lord did bless us
With a person so kind and true.
And we pray we'll be there with you
When our life on earth is through.

You Never Said Goodbye

You never said I'm leaving
You never said goodbye
You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knew why.
A million times I needed you,
A million times I cried
If love alone could have saved you,
You never would have died
In life I loved you dearly
In death I love you still
In my heart you hold a place,
That no one ever fill
It broke my heart to lose you,
But you didn't go alone
For part of me went with you,
The day God took you home.

Do not stand at my grave and weep.

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints in snow,
I am the sunlight and ripened grain.
I am the gentle Autumn rain.
When you awake in the morning hush,
I am the swift upflinging rush
Of quiet birds in circling flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.

Softly in the morning,

Softly in the morning,
You heard a gentle call,
You took the hand God offered you,
And quietly left us all.

The day you left us Mother,
Our hearts just broke in two,
The smallest part is still with us,
And the biggest part with you.

For the rest of our lives
we will miss you Mother,
Our secret tears still flow,
Oh, how we really loved you,
No one will ever know.

We miss your smile, your joking ways,
We miss the things you used to say,
And when old times we do recall,
It's then we miss you most of all.

You were always there when we needed you,
No task too great or small,
With loving heart and willing hands,
For us you did it all.

Look around your garden Lord,
And when she turns and smiles,
Put your arms around her,
And hold her for a while.

There is a home

There is a home that lies beyond
And past its golden door
Awaits the one who's now away,
Not lost -just gone before.
And in that home that lies beyond
The Master will prepare
A place for you,
And when He calls
You'll meet your loved ones there.
The memories and love I leave behind
Are yours to keep
I have found my rest; I have turned my face
To the sun, and now I sleep.

If Tears Could Build A Stairway

If tears could build a stairway
And memories were a lane
We would walk right up to Heaven
And bring you back again

No farewell words were spoken
No time to say goodbye
You were gone before we knew it
And only God knows why

Our hearts still ache in sadness
And secret tears still flow
What it meant to lose you
No one will ever know

But now we know you want us
To mourn for you no more
To remember all the happy times
Life still has much in store

Since you'll never be forgotten
We pledge to you today

A hallowed place within our hearts
Is where you'll always stay

I held you close

I held you close, and said "good-bye"
In quiet repose and peace you lie.
You were the greatest gift in life,
My prize, my dearest darling wife.

My morning sun, my evening star,
My days now done, my night not far.
The greatest gift there could ever be,
You gave it all,... yourself to me.

My peace will come, I'll gain life's prize,
When I'm with you, my darling Wife.

After Glow

I'd like the memory of me
to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an after glow
of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times
and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
to dry before the sun
of happy memories
that I leave when life is done.

Life's journey

Throughout there has been only one purpose
To give of god's love, of which there is surplus
Worry not of loved ones, achievements or hopes
For your influences in this world will ensure all will cope

Only the soul knows the reason God sends.
And of that moment when this journey ends.
The soul is the recorder of causes and effects.
It always continues after the body defects.

When completing your part in life's future design.
It is then that the body has need to resign.
We'll again work together in far distant lands.
Our mission of influence and joining of hands.

Excited hands of light await.
Smiling with love for your return date.
Far greater work beckons in a far greater place.
To ensure there's a future for the new human race

He is Gone

You can shed tears that he is gone,
Or you can smile because he lived,

You can close your eyes and pray that he will come back,
Or you can open your eyes and see all that he has left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him
Or you can be full of the love that you shared,

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember him and only that he is gon

Or you can cherish his memory and let it live on,

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back,
Or you can do what he would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

Miss me - but let me go

When I come to the end of my road,
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little – but not too long
And not with you head bowed low
Remember the love that we once shared
Miss me – but let me go

When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds,
Miss me – but let me go

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Gone From My Sight

I am standing upon the seashore.
A ship at my side spreads her white
sails to the morning breeze and starts
for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength
I stand and watch her until at length
she hangs like a speck of white cloud
just where the sea and sky come
to mingle with each other

Then someone at my side says; "There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all.
She is just as large in mast and hull
and spar as she was when she left my side
and she is just as able to bear her
load of living freight to her destined port.
Her diminished size is in me, not in her.

And just at the moment when someone
at my side says, "There, she is gone!"
There are other eyes watching her coming,
and other voices ready to take up the glad shout,
"Here she comes!"

And that is dying.

Explaining Death to a Child WaterBugs and Dragonflies

Down below the surface of a quiet pond lived a little colony of water bugs. They were a happy colony, living far away from the sun. For many months they were very busy, scurrying over the soft mud on the bottom of the pond. They did notice that every once in a while one of their colony seemed to lose interest in going about with its friends. Clinging to the stem of a pond lily, it gradually moved out of sight and was seen no more.

"Look" said one of the water bugs to another. "One of our colony is climbing the lily stalk. Where do you suppose he is going?" Up, up, up it went slowly. Even as they watched, the water bug disappeared from sight. Its friends watched, and waited but it didn't return. "That's funny!" said one water bug to another. "Wasn't he happy here?" asked a second water bug. "Where do you suppose he went?" wondered a third. No one had an answer. They were greatly puzzled. Finally one of the water bugs, a leader in the colony, gathered its friends together "I have an idea. The next one of us who climbs up the lily stalk must promise to come back and tell us where he went and why." "We promise," they said solemnly.

One spring day, not long after, the very water bug who had suggested the plan found himself climbing up the lily stalk. Up, up, up he went. Before he knew what was happening, he had broken through the surface of the water, and fallen on to a broad, green lily pad above. When he awoke, he looked about with surprise. He couldn't believe what he saw. A startling change had come to his old body. His movement revealed four silver wings and a long tail. Even as he struggled, he felt an impulse to move his wings. The warmth of the sun soon dried the moisture from the new body. He moved his wings again and suddenly found himself up above the water. He had become a dragonfly. Swooping and dipping in great curves he flew through the air. He felt exhilarated in the new atmosphere.

By and by, new dragonfly landed happily on a lily pad to rest. Then it was that he chanced to look below to the bottom of the pond. Why, he was right above his old friends the water bugs. There they were scurrying about, just as he had been doing some time before. Then the dragonfly remembered the promise: "The next one of us who climbs up the lily stalk will come back and tell where he went and why. Without thinking, the dragonfly darted down. Suddenly he hit the surface of the water and bounced away. Now that he was a dragonfly, he could no longer go into the water.

"I can't return" he said in dismay "At least I tried, but I can't keep my promise.

Even if I could go back, none of the water bugs would know me in my new body. I guess I'll just have to wait until they become Dragonflies too. Then they will understand what happened to me, and where I went" And the Dragonfly winged off happily into its wonderful new world of sun and air.

All is well

"Death is nothing at all. I have only slipped away into the next room. I am I, and you are you. Whatever we were to each other, that we still are. Call me by my old familiar name, speak to me in the easy way which you always used. Put no difference in your tone, wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was, let it be spoken without effect, without the trace of a shadow on it. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was; there is unbroken continuity. Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight? I am waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just round the corner. All is well."

When I'm Gone

When I come to the end of my journey
And I travel my last weary mile,
Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned
And remember only the smile.

Forget unkind words I have spoken;
Remember some good I have done.
Forget that I ever had heartache
And remember I've had loads of fun.

Forget that I've stumbled and blundered
And sometimes fell by the way.
Remember I have fought some hard battles
And won, ere the close of the day.

Then forget to grieve for my going,
I would not have you sad for a day,
But in summer just gather some flowers

And remember the place where I lay,

And come in the shade of evening
When the sun paints the sky in the west
Stand for a few moments beside me
And remember only my best.

Footprints

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand: one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord. When the last scene flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life. This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me." The Lord replied, "My son, My precious child, I love you, and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you" --Author unknown

LIFE

Life is but a stopping place
A pause in what's to be
A resting place along the road
To sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant
to learn some things,
But never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place
Far greater than we know.
For some, the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.

And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.

For My Mum

You gave me all that a mother could give
You gave me your love and a reason to live
You've been my best friend for so many years
We've shared happy times and also our tears
There's no-one that means as much as you do
After all you've done for me, and all we've been through
So we'll never be parted - it just cannot be
For you know that I love you, and I know you love me

Millie

We'll never know your joy, or the things that make you laugh,
We'll never know which toys you want to play with in the bath.
We'll never know the pain you feel or any of your fears,
We'll never get to comfort you and wipe away your tears.

We'll never know if you're bossy, If you brag or if you boast.
We'll never know the things that matter to you most.
We'll never get the chance to take you anywhere,
We'll never get to tell you how much love we have to share.

We'll never get to know the things you really, really like.
We'll never get to teach you how to swim or ride a bike.
We'll never know which music makes you sing and want to dance.
We'll never know a lot of things. We'll never get the chance.

But of all the many things we'll never get to do;
We'll always have that precious time and memories of you.
And of all the many things we'll never get the chance to say
You'll be with us, every second, every minute, every day.

We'll never leave you baby, we'll always be right here.
The bond we have is for too strong, and will never disappear.
And time may ease the heartache and take away the pain.
But will never leave until we're all together once again.