



Scripture and Poem
Selections

Acknowledgement
Selections

Celebrate the Seasons of Life™



We are pleased to provide this resource to help you determine an appropriate scripture or poem for your loved one's service.

If you do not find a selection that you wish to use, we will be glad to assist you in finding the right one.

All of our service folders are completely customizable and can be personalized with any message you wish.



Scripture Selections

The Twenty-Third Psalm

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul, he leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil
for thou art with me; thy rod and
thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.*

S-1

*And he will wipe out every tear
from their eyes,
and death will be no more,
neither will mourning nor
outcry nor pain be anymore.
The former things have passed away.*

Revelation 21:4

S-2

*Let not your heart be troubled;
believe in God, believe also in Me.
In My Father's house are many
dwelling places;
if it were not so, I would have told you;
for I go to prepare a place for you.
And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come again,
and receive you to Myself;
that where I am,
there you may be also.*

John 14:1-3

S-3

*For we know that when this
earthly tent we live in now is taken
down –when we die and leave
these bodies – we will have
wonderful new bodies in
heaven, homes that will be
ours forevermore, made for
us by God himself, and not
by human hands.*

II Corinthians 5:1

S-4

Psalm 121

*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord,
which made heaven and earth.
The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord
is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil:
He shall preserve thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out
and thy coming in from this time
forth, and even for evermore.*

S-5

*There is an appointed time
for everything,
and there is a time for every event
under heaven:
A time to give birth,
and a time to die;...*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

S-6

*Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.*

Matthew 5:4

S-7

*Jesus said, "I am the resurrection,
and the life: He who believeth
in me, though he were dead,
yet shall he live."*

John 11:25

S-8

*Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive
those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever.
Amen*

S-9

*For God so loved the world
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in Him
should not perish
but have everlasting life.*

John 3:16

S-10

*Fear thou not;
I am with thee:
be not dismayed;
for I am thy God:
I will strengthen thee;
yea, I will uphold thee
with the right hand
of my righteousness.*

Isaiah 41:10

S-11

*But those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary
they will walk and not be faint.*

Isaiah 40:31

S-12

*For I am persuaded, that neither death,
nor life, nor angels, nor principalities,
nor powers, nor things present, nor
things to come, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature, shall be able
to separate us from the love of God,
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38,39

S-13

*Cast thy burden upon the Lord,
and He shall sustain thee;
He shall never suffer
the righteous to be moved.*

Psalms 55:22

S-14

*"Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"
The sting of death is sin, and the power
of sin is the law. But thanks be to God!
He gives us the victory through our
Lord Jesus Christ.*

I Corinthians 15:55-57

S-15

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will
Say it again: Rejoice! Let your
gentleness be evident to all.
The Lord is near.
Do not be anxious about anything,
But in everything, by prayer and
petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.
And the peace of God,
which transcends all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds
in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:4-7

S-16

*Brothers, we do not want you to
be ignorant about those who
fall asleep, or to grieve like
the rest of men, who have no
hope. We believe that Jesus
died and rose again and so
we believe that God will bring
with Jesus those who have
fallen asleep in him.*

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

S-17

*Lo, I am with you always,
even unto the end
of the world.*

Matthew 28:20

S-18

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep
of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
For the Lord is good and his love
endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through
all generations.*

Psalms 100

S-19

PSALM 91

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

S-20

*Love is patient;
Love is kind;
Love is not jealous,
it does not put on airs,
it is not snobbish.
Love is never rude,
it is not self seeking,
it is not prone to anger;
neither does it brood over injuries.
Love does not rejoice
in what is wrong,
but rejoices with the truth.
There is no limit
to Love's forbearance,
its trust,
its hope,
its power to endure.
Love never fails..*

S-21

*The gift of God is eternal
life through Jesus Christ,
our Lord.*

Romans 6:23

S-22

*In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God;
all things were made through him,
and without him was not anything
made that was made.*

*In him was life,
and the life was the light of men.
The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.*

John 1:1-5

S-23

*But as for me and my household, we
will serve the Lord.*

Joshua 24:15b

S-24

*May the angels lead you
into paradise;
upon your arrival may
the martyrs
welcome you, and lead you into
the Holy City of Jerusalem.
May a choir of angels
welcome you,
and may you have eternal rest.*

S-25

*May the songs
of the angels welcome you,
and guide you along your way.
May the smiles of the martyrs greet
your own as darkness turns into day.
Ev'ry fear will be undone
and death will be no more.
As songs of the angels bring
you home
before the face of God.*

S-26

With the Saints give rest,
O Christ, to the soul of thy servant,
where there is neither sickness, nor
sorrow, nor sighing, but life everlasting

S-27

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!
Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!
Al Maseeh Qam! Haqqan Qam!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!
Hristos a Inviat! Adevemat a Inviat!
Qom Alohu min Kubra! Tishbahtu Hilo
Rabu!
Yasous Taustwal! Aown Tasous
Tanastwal!
Cristo è Risorto! Veramente è Risorto!

S-28



Poem Selections

*God saw she was getting tired
and a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around her
and whispered "Come with Me."*

*With tearful eyes we watched her suffer,
and saw her fade away.
Although we loved her dearly,
we could not make her stay.*

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

P-1

The Dash

by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time they spent alive on earth and now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars...the house...the cash. What matters is how we lived and loved and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that still can be rearranged.

To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash...would you be proud of the things they say about how you lived your dash?

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P-2

What God Hath Promised

*God hath not promised
skies always blue,
flower-strewn pathways
all our lives through.
God hath not promised
sun without rain,
joy without sorrow,
peace without pain.*

*But God hath promised
strength for the day,
rest for the labor,
light for the way,
grace for the trials,
help from above,
unfailing sympathy,
and undying love.*

Annie Johnson Flint

P-3

To Those I Love And Those Who Love Me

*When I am gone, release me, let me go -
I have so many things to see and do.
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears,
Be happy that we had so many years.*

*I gave to you my love. You can only guess
How much you gave to me in happiness.
I thank you for the love you each have shown,
But now it's time I traveled on alone.*

*So grieve for me a while if grieve you must,
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part,
So bless the memories within your heart.*

*I won't be far away, for life goes on.
So, if you need me, call and I will come.
Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near...
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear
All my love around you soft and clear.*

*And then, when you must come this way alone,
I'll greet you with a smile, and say,
"Welcome Home!"*

P-4

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me for now, I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of the day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh yes, these things I too, will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now; He set me free.*

P-5

*Do not stand by my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep,
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.*

*When you awake in the morning hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circling flight,
I am the soft star that shines at night.*

*Do not stand by my grave and cry
I am not there.*

P-6

Afterglow

*Those we love
remain with us,
for love itself lives on,
And cherished memories never fade
because a loved one's gone...
Those we love can never be
more than a thought apart,
For as long as there is memory,
They'll live on in the heart.*

P-7

*I'd like the memory of me to be a
happy one,
I'd like to leave an afterglow 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.*

P-8

The Serenity Prayer

*God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change,
the courage
to change the things I can,
and the wisdom
to know the difference.*

P-9

An Irish Blessing

*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you
In the palm of His hand.*

P-10

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 of his life 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 precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During those times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

P-11

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

*Lord, make me an instrument of
your peace;
Where there is hatred,
let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness,
joy.*

*O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to
understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are
pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are
born to eternal life.*

P-12

Safely Home

*I am home in heaven, dear ones
oh, so happy and so bright!
There is a perfect joy and beauty
in the everlasting light.
All the pain and grief is over,
every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
safely home in heaven at last.
There is work still waiting for you,
so you must not idly stand,
do it now, while life remaineth -
you shall rest in God's own land.
When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home;
oh, the rapture of that meeting
oh, the joy to see you come!*

P-13

Safely Home

I am in Heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
in this everlasting light.
All the pain and grief is over,
every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever;
safely home in Heaven at last.
Did you wonder I so calmly trod
the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
every dark and fearful glade.
He came Himself to meet me
in that way so hard to tread;
and with Jesus' arm to lean on,
could I have one doubt or dread?
Then you must not grieve so sorely,
for I love you dearly still.
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
pray to trust our Father's will.
There is work still waiting for you,
so you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth -
you shall rest in Jesus' hand.
When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you Home;
oh, the rapture of that meeting,
oh, the joy to see you come!

P-14

*When I quit this mortal shore
And mosey 'round this earth no more
Don't weep, don't sigh,
Don't grieve, don't sob;
I may have struck a better job.
Don't go and buy a large bouquet
For which you'll find it hard to pay.
Don't stand around me looking blue;
I may be better off than you!*

-Anonymous

P-15

MISS ME

When I come to the end of the 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 your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
miss me, but let me go.
For this is a journey that we all must take,
and each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master plan,
a step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick of heart,
go to the friends we know
and bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.
Miss me, but let me go.

P-16

When I Must Leave You

by Helen Steiner Rice

*When I must leave you for a little while,
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow to you through the years,
But start out bravely with a gallant smile;
And for my sake and in my name
Live on and do all things the same,
Feed not your loneliness on empty days,
But fill each waking hour in useful ways,
Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you and hold you near;
And never, never be afraid to die,
For I am waiting for you in the sky.
We part with our loved ones but not forever,
If we trust God's promise and doubt it never!*

P-17

This Is Just A Resting Place

*Sometimes the road of life seems long,
As we travel through the years.
And with a heart that's broken,
And eyes that are full of tears.
We falter in our weariness,
And sink along the way.
But God leans down and whispers,
"Child, there will be another day".
And the road will grow much smoother,
And much easier to face.
So do not be disheartened,
"This is just a resting place".*

Helen Steiner Rice

P-18

*Thank you God, for little things
That often come our way.
The things we take for granted,
But don't mention when we pray.
The unexpected courtesy,
A thoughtful kindly deed,
A hand reached out to help us
In a time of sudden need.
Oh make us more aware dear God,
Of little daily graces,
That come to us with sweet surprise,
From never dreamed of places.*

Helen Steiner Rice

P-19

*Everywhere across the land
You see God's face and touch His hand,
Each time you look up in the sky
Or watch the fluffy clouds drift by,
Or feel the sunshine warm and bright,
Or watch the dark night turn to light,
Or hear a bluebird gayly sing,
Or see the winter turn to spring,
Or stop to see a daffodil,
Or gather violets on some hill . . .
Or touch a leaf or see a tree,
It's all God whispering, "This is Me . . .
And I am faith, and I am Light,
And in Me there shall be no night!"*

Helen Steiner Rice

P-20

*We are grateful to each of
you for loving us, for
sharing in our lives and
for being a part of this
special time of remembrance.*

The Family of

P-21

*We would like to take this
opportunity to thank you for
sharing with us as we
worship God and rejoice as
our loved one is now with Him. It is
our hope that, through this
service, you will come to
know Jesus Christ in a new
way. Thank you for your
prayers and continued
support.*

The family of

P-22

*A friendly smile,
a casual touch,
These are the things
that mean so much.
To know you are with us
in our time of sorrow,
Sharing our prayers,
today and tomorrow.
God gives us comfort
in the form of good friends.
May His peace be with you,
His love never ends.*

The Family Of

P-23

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a funeral spray,
If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all;
Just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much whatever the part.*

P-24

Mother, Darling

*What is home without a mother?
All things this world may send,
but when we lost our darling mother,
we lost our dearest friend.
Loving and kind in all your ways,
upright and just to the end
of your days;
sincere and true,
in your heart and mind;
beautiful memories,
you left behind.
However long our lives may last,
whatever lands we view,
whatever joy or grief be ours,
we will always think of you.*

P-25

A Mother's Love

*A mother's love
is understanding,
patient, kind,
and undemanding,
quick to give encouragement
and thoughtful
words of praise . . .
A mother's love is warm
and gentle,
generous and sentimental . . .
A mother's love is precious
in so many
special ways.
Thank you for loving
as only a mother can love,
for being the most wonderful
Mother, wife and grandmother
in the world . . .
for being you.*

P-26

A Mother's Farewell To Her Children

*When I must leave you for a little while,
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow to you through the years,
But start out bravely with a gallant smile;
And for my sake and in my name
Live on and do all things the same,
Feed not your loneliness on empty days,
But fill each waking hour in useful ways,
Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you and hold you near;
And never, never be afraid to die,
For I am waiting for you in the sky!*

P-27

Her Journey's Just Begun

*Don't think of her as gone away -
her journey's just begun,
life holds so many facets -
this earth is only one.
Just think of her as resting
from the sorrows and the tears
in a place of warmth and comfort
where there are no days and years.
Think how she must be wishing
that we could know today
how nothing but our sadness
can really pass away.
And think of her as living
in the hearts of those she touched...
for nothing loved is ever lost -
and she was loved so much.*

Ellen Brenneman

P-28

Love Lives On

By Amanda Bradley

*Those we love
are never really lost to us –
we feel them
in so many special ways –
through friends
they always cared about
and dreams they left behind,
in beauty that they added to our days...
in words of wisdom
we still carry with us
and memories that never will be gone...
Those we love
are never really lost to us –
For everywhere their special love
lives on.*

P-29

*We sat beside your bedside,
our hearts were crushed and sore,
we did our best to the end,
'til we could do no more.
In tears we watched you sinking
we watched you fade away,
and though our hearts were breaking,
we knew you could not stay.
You left behind some aching hearts,
that loved you most sincere;
we never shall and
never will ever
forget you mother dear.*

P-30

GOD'S GARDEN

*God looked around His garden
And found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth,
And saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough,
And the hills were hard to climb,
So He closed your weary eyelids,
And whispered "Peace be thine."
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.*

P-31

*Your gentle face and patient smile
With sadness we recall.
You had a kindly word for each
And died beloved by all.
The voice is mute and stilled
the heart.
That loved us well and true.
Ah, bitter was the trial to part
from one so good as you.
You are not forgotten loved one
Nor will you ever be
As long as life and memory last
We will remember thee.*

*We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
As time goes by we miss you more,
Your loving smile, your gentle face,
No one can take your vacant place.*

P-32

WHAT IS DYING?

*A ship sails and I stand
watching till she fades on
the horizon and someone at my
side says, "she is gone." Gone where?
Gone from my sight, that is all;
she is just as large as when I
saw her. The diminished size,
and total loss of sight is in me,
not in her, and just at the moment
when someone at my side says
"she is gone," there are others who
are watching her coming, and
other voices take up a glad shout,
"There she comes!" and that is
dying.*

Bishop Brent

P-33

*We can only see a little
of the ocean when we stand
at the rocky shore,*

*But out there, beyond the eye's
horizon, there's more –
there's more!*

*We can only see a little of
God's loving, a few rich
samples of His mighty store,*

*But out there, beyond the eye's
horizon, there is more –
there is more!*

P-34

Crossing the Bar

*Sunset and evening star
and one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
when I put out to sea.*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out
the boundless deep
turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell,
and after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
when I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne
of time and place
the flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
when I have crossed the bar.*

Alfred Tennyson

P-35

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 the 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.

Henry Van Dyke

P-36

*Life is eternal
and love is immortal
and death is only
a horizon
and a horizon
is nothing
save the limit
of our sight*

P-37

God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again

*God be with you 'til we meet again,
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you:
God be with you 'til we meet again.*

*God be with you 'til we meet again,
'Neath His wings protecting hide you,
Daily manna still provide you:
God be with you 'til we meet again.*

*God be with you 'til we meet again,
If life's trials should confound you,
God will put His arms around you:
God be with you 'til we meet again.*

*God be with you 'til we meet again,
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Smite death's threat'ning wave before you:
God be with you 'til we meet again.*

P-38

Finally Home

*Just think of stepping on shore
and finding it Heaven!
Of touching a hand
and finding it God's!
Of breathing new air
and finding it celestial!
Of waking up in Glory
and finding it home!*

P-39

When Death's dark stream I ferry o'er

*A time that surely shall come,
In Heaven itself I'll ask no more
Than just a Highland welcome.*

Robert Burns

P-40

Beyond The Sunset

*Should you go first and I remain,
to walk the road alone,
I'll live in memories garden, dear,
with happy days we've known.*

*In Spring I'll wait for roses red,
When faded, the lilacs blue.
In early Fall when brown leaves fall,
I'll catch a glimpse of you.*

*Should you go first and I remain
for battles to be fought,
Each thing you touched along the way
will be a hallowed spot.*

*I'll hear your voice, I'll see your smile,
tho blindly I may grope,
The memory of your helping hand
will buoy me on with hope.*

*Should you go first and I remain,
one thing I'll have to do,
Walk slowly down that long, long path,
for soon I'll follow you.*

*I want to know each step you take,
so I may take the same.
For someday down that lonely road,
you'll hear me call your name.*

P-41

May I Go?

*May I go now? Do you think the time is right?
May I say good-bye to pain filled days
and endless, restless nights?*

*I've lived my life and done my best,
an example I've tried to be;
so may I take that step beyond
and set my spirit free?*

*I didn't want to go at first,
I fought with all my might;
but something seems to draw me
now, to a warm and loving light.
I want to go, I really do, it's difficult to stay;
but I will try as best I can,
to live for one more day.*

*To give you time to care for me
and share your love and fears;
I know you're sad and afraid,
because I see your tears.
I'll not be far, I promise that, and hope you'll
always know; that my spirit will be close to you,
wherever you may go.*

*Thank you so for loving me,
you know I love you too;
that's why it's hard to say good-bye
and end this life with you.
So hold me now, just one more time
and let me hear you say;
because you care too much for me,
you'll let me go today.*

P-42

*The time draws nearer every day
When I shall put my tools away,
And say "good-bye" to kith and kin,
To claim the prize I've tried to win.*

*Try as I might I could not earn
The kind things said at every turn,
But only try - that debt to pay
As I go on my self-same way.*

*So, after all, when this life's o'er,
And 'ole Grim Reaper's at my door,
And my remains be laid to rest,
I hope 'tis said, "He did his best."*

P-43

The Final Ride Home

*With my trusty horse beneath me,
And the blessed Lord above,
I've hit the trail for that final ride,
On this steed I dearly love.*

*With the fading sunset in my eye,
I look down from my horse; I see you cry.
I know you are sad,
But please take comfort in the wonderful
life I've had.*

*With my eyes straight ahead I see the light,
My rest is near; I've won the fight.
With a tip of my hat and a wave of the hand,
I finish my ride; I'm in the Promised Land.*

P-44

FISHERMAN'S PRAYER

*God grant that I may live to fish
Until my dying day,
And when I come to my last cast,
I'll humbly pray
When in the Lord's safe landing net,
I'm peacefully asleep,
That in His mercy, I'll be judged good
enough to keep.*

P-45

A Hero's Welcome

By Robert Longley

*Time to come home dear brother
Your tour of duty through
You've given as much as anyone
Could be expected to do*

*Just a few steps further
The smoke will start to clear
Others here will guide you
You have no need of fear*

*You have not failed your brothers
You clearly gave it all
And through your selfless actions
Others will hear the call*

*So take your place of honor
Among those who have gone before
And know you will be remembered
For now and evermore*

P-46

A Fireman's Prayer

*When I am called to duty, God,
Whenever flames may rage;
Give me strength to save some life,
Whatever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late
Or save an older person
From the horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert
And hear the weakest shout,
And quickly and efficiently
To put the fire out.
I want to fill my calling
And to give the best in me
To guard my every neighbor
And protect his property.
And if, according to my fate,
I am to lose my life,
Please bless with your protecting
My children and my wife.*

P-47

JUST A FARMER

By Helen C. Coon

*"Just a farmer," you said,
And I laughed 'cause I knew
All the things that farmers
Must be able to do.*

*They must study the land,
Then watch out for the sky
And figure just when
Is the right time and why –*

*To sow and to plant,
To buy and to sell,
To go to the market
With cattle and well –*

*You know the books
That farmers must keep
To pay all those taxes
And be able to sleep.*

*An you know the fixin'
That farmers must do
When machines like mad monsters
Blow a gasket or two.*

*I guess when God needed
Folks to care for His earth,
He chose "just farmers"
'cause He knew their true worth.*

P-48

*The most rewarding love on earth
Does not cost us a cent
And can't be bartered, bought or sold
And can't be lost or spent;
It keeps us safe, in its embrace,
Throughout each night and day
And is a beacon on this earth,
That lights the Christian way.
It is God's sacred love of heart -
To last beyond the life -
And be a haven for our joys
And refuge for our strife
And – in return – He only asks
We worship Him each day
And share His blessings and rewards
With all along our way.*

P-49

You Took The Time

*You took the time to stop and chat
As you passed by today
To jest a bit in pure delight
Before you went your way.*

*You took the time to lend a hand
When I was faced with care
To give the strength of fellowship
To comfort and to share.*

*You took the time for words of praise
That warmed me through and through
You took the time to be a friend
So patient, kind and true.*

P-50

If Tears Could Build A Stairway

If tears could build a stairway,
and memories a lane.
I 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 I knew it,
and only God knows why.

My heart still aches with sadness,
and secret tears still flow.
What it meant to love you -
No one can ever know.

But now I know you want me
to mourn for you no more;
To remember all the happy times
life still has much in store.

Since you'll never be forgotten,
I pledge to you today –
A hollowed place within my heart
is where you'll always stay.

P-51

The Broken Chain

We little knew that day,
God was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly,
In death, we do the same.

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

You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide.
And although we cannot see you,
You are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken,
And nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.

by Ron Tranmer

P-52

The Rest of Victory

There is nothing – no circumstance, no trouble, no testing – that can ever touch me until, first of all, it has come past God the Father and past the Lord Jesus Christ right through to me.

If it has come that far, it has come with great purpose, which I may not understand at the moment.

But, as I refuse to become panicky,
as I wait upon the Lord,
and as I lift up my eyes to Him
and accept it as coming from the throne of God
for some great purpose of blessing to my own heart,
no sorrow will ever disturb me,
no trial will ever disarm me,
no circumstance will ever cause me to fret – for I shall rest in the joy of what my Lord is.
That is the rest of victory!

P-53

When I'm Gone

*Give what's left of me away to children
and to old folks that wait to die.*

*And if you need to cry,
cry for your brother and sister
walking the street beside you.*

*And when you need me, put your arms around someone
and give them what
you need to give to me.*

*I want to leave you something,
some-thing better than words or sounds.
Look for me in the people I've known and loved,
and if you cannot give me away,
at least let me live in your eyes
and not in your mind.*

*You can love me most by letting hands touch hands, by
letting bodies touch bodies,
and by letting go of children that need to be free.
Love doesn't die, people do.
So, when all that's left of me is love,
give me away.*

P-54

*Our Life grows and fades
as quickly as the flowers
and passes even on to
where we cannot see.
You alone give meaning
to our being together
and our being apart.*

P-55

Walk in Sunshine

*May you always walk in sunshine
and God's love around you flow,
for the happiness you gave us,
no one will ever know.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you did not go alone,
a part of us went with you
the day God called you home.
A million times we've needed you,
a million times we've cried.
If love could only have saved you,
you never would have died.*

*The Lord be with you
and may you
rest in peace.
Amen*

P-56

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

Author unknown

P-57

Taps

*Day is done,
gone the sun.
From the lake,
from the hill,
from the sky.
All is well,
safely rest.
God is nigh.
Thanks and praise
for our days.
'neath the sun,
'neath the stars,
'neath the sky.
As we go,
this we know.
God is nigh.*

P-58

Some Day

*Some day all doubt and mystery
Will be made clear;
The threatened clouds which now we see
Will disappear.*

*Some day what seems a punishment
Or loss, or pain,
Will prove to be God's blessing sent
For every gain.*

*Some day our weary feet will rest
In sweet content,
And we will know how we were blest
By what was sent.*

*And looking back with clearer eyes
O'er life's short span,
Will see with wondering glad surprise,
God's perfect plan.*

*And knowing that the way we went
Was God's own way,
Will understand His wise intent,
Some day – some day.*

P-59

*There is never a life without sadness,
There is never a heart free from pain;
If one seeks in this world for true solace, He
seeks it forever in vain.*

*So when to your heart comes the sorrow
Of losing some dear one you've known
Tis the touch of God's sickle at harvest
Since He reaps in the fields
He has sown.*

P-60

*For every burden that we bear,
For every sorrow, every care,
There's a reason
For every grief that bows the head,
For every tear-drop that is shed,
There's a reason
For every hurt, for every plight,
For every lonely pain racked night,
There's a reason
But if we trust God as we should,
All must work out for our good,
He knows the reason.*

P-61

*Now the laborer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.

"Earth to earth and dust to dust,"
Calmly now the words we say,
Left behind, we wait in trust
For the resurrection day.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.*

John Ellerton, 1870

P-62

*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 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 gone,
or you can cherish his memory and
let it live on.
You can cry and let your mind be empty
or you can do what he would want:
Smile, hold your head high, love God
and go on.*

P-63

PROMISES KEPT

*God never promised
in whatever we do that
we'd always be happy
and healthy too.
He never said life
would be free of pain
but He said He'd be there
time and again
to bolster our spirits,
to lighten our way,
to give strength and courage
day after day.
To make us feel worthy,
to give inner peace
and from life's tensions
a loving release.*

P-64

You may have
Left This earth,
but you will never
Leave Our Hearts.

P-65

It is a difficult climb that leads to the
Heights of Greatness.
Your dedication and determination to
reach the top is
An Inspiration
to all of us you left behind.

P-66

A Little While

Fill not your hearts with pain and sorrow,
But remember me in every tomorrow...
Remember the joy, the laughter, the smiles,
I've only gone to rest a little while.
Although my leaving causes pain and grief,
My going has eased my hurt
And given me relief.
So dry your eyes and remember me,
Not as I am now, but as I used to be.
Because I will remember you all
And look on with a smile.
Understand in your hearts
I've only gone to rest a little while.

P-67

Alzheimer Request

Do not ask me to remember,
Don't try to make me understand.
Let me rest and know you're with me,
Kiss my cheek and hold my hand.
I'm confused beyond your concept,
I'm sad and sick and lost.
All I know is that I need you,
To be with me at-all-cost.
Do not lose your patience with me,
Do not scold or curse or cry.
I can't help the way I'm acting,
I can't be different though I try.
Just remember that I need you,
That the best of me is gone.
Please don't fail to stand beside me,
Love me 'til my life is gone.

Unknown

P-68

Acknowledgement Selections

*Acknowledging with
grateful appreciation your
very kind and thoughtful
expression of sympathy.*

AC-1

*As difficult as these times
seem to us now,
our sorrow turns to strength
because of friends and
family like you.*

AC-2

*During a time like this
we realize how much our
family and friends mean to us...
Your kind expression of
sympathy will always be
appreciated.*

The family of

AC-3

*For all the kindness you have shown,
We thank you very much,
For sympathy in sorrowing days,
For friendship's healing touch,
With gratitude our hearts are full,
Though words cannot convey
The tender thoughts and thankfulness
We hold for you today.*

The family of

AC-4

*Just knowing that in
countless ways our friends
and family are with us
makes the way easier.
Thank you for sharing
our sorrow.*

The family of

AC-5

*Just knowing that
our family and
friends are with us,
makes the way easier.
Thank you.*

AC-6

*Just when friends are needed
You find them always near;
Just when shadows darken,
Their comforting words you hear.
Thank you.*

AC-7

*Life's path
is more easily traveled
in the company of
friends and family like you.
Thank you for your kindness.*

The family of

AC-8

*May this express...
at least in part...
sincere and warmest thanks
for your thoughtfulness.*

AC-9

*Never are we more aware
of how much our friends
and family mean than at
the time of our sadness.
Your thoughtfulness did so
much to ease our sorrow.*

The family of

AC-10

*Our burden of sorrow
has been lifted
because of the support
of our family and friends.
Thank you for being with us
in our time of grief.*

The family of

AC-11

*Our hearts have been
touched and forever changed
by your kind support in our
time of grief.
Thank you for
remembering.*

AC-12

*Peace often begins
with an act of kindness...
thank you for yours.
Your expression of sympathy
will always be remembered
by the family of*

AC-13

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece,
If so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all,
Just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much whatever the part.*

The family of

AC-14

*Quiet like – some still day,
Going home, but not away.
Thank you for your kindness
at this trying time...*

AC-15

*Remembering the life of
our loved one was made
special by your thoughtful
acts of caring.
Thank you.*

AC-16

*Thank you for your kindness.
The family of*

AC-17

*Thank you for
your kindness and sympathy
at a time when it was
deeply appreciated.*

AC-18

*Thank you sincerely for
sharing our sorrow.
Your kindness is deeply
appreciated and will
always be remembered.*

The family of

AC-19

*Thank you sincerely
for your kind expression
of sympathy.
It was deeply appreciated
and is gratefully acknowledged.*

AC-20

*The best things in life
we can't measure
In dollars and cents, so they say;
The kindness you've shown us
we shall treasure
Deep down in our hearts always.
We appreciate you.*

The family of

AC-21

The family of

*acknowledges with sincere
thanks the kind expression
of your sympathy.*

AC-22

The family of

*will hold in grateful
remembrance your kind
expression of sympathy.*

AC-23

*There are those whose lives
death cannot diminish.*

*Their love radiates forever
in the hearts of family
and friends.*

*We felt that love
in your thoughtfulness.
Thank you so much.*

The family of

AC-24

There is a saying...
"People will forget what you did...
They may forget what you said...
But they will never forget how
you made them feel."
Thank you for caring.

AC-25

We have lost someone
very special...
Thank you for
sharing our grief.

The family of

AC-26

We wish to acknowledge
with sincere thanks
the kind expression
of your sympathy.

The family of

AC-27

What we will remember
when we look back,
are the times when kindness
made a difference in our lives.
Thank you for caring.

AC-28

*Whether it was
the comfort of your presence,
or the touch of your hand,
or your whispers of love,
or the remembrances
from yesteryear,
each has meant so much.*

The family of

AC-29

*Words cannot express the
feeling in our hearts.
Thank you for being with
us during this difficult time.
Your thoughts, prayers and
words of sympathy will
always be remembered.*

The family of

AC-30

*Your kind expression of
sympathy and friendship
will always remain
in our memories.
Thank you for
your thoughtfulness.*

AC-31

*Your kindness and
concern have meant so
very much and will
always be remembered.*

The family of

AC-32

*Your kindness is more
deeply appreciated than
we can find words
to express.
Thank you sincerely for
sharing our sorrow.*

AC-33

*Your thoughtfulness and
support gives us courage to
face tomorrow.
Thank you.
The family of*

AC-34

*Your thoughtfulness at
this time means more
than words can say.
Thank you for your kindness.
The family of*

AC-35

*Your thoughtfulness means
a lot to us,
More than we can say,
And our warm appreciation comes
With this thank-you note today.
The family of*

AC-36