

*Remember me when
flowers bloom early in the spring.*

*Remember me on sunny days
in the fun that summer brings.*

*Remember me in the fall
as you walk through leaves of gold,
and remember me in the wintertime
in the stories that are told.*

*But most of all remember
each day right from the start,
I will be forever near you
for I am within your heart.*

Remember Me

A limb has fallen from the family tree.

*I keep hearing a voice that says,
“Grieve not for me.*

Remember the best times, the laughter, the song.

The good life I lived while I was strong.

Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you.

*Keep smiling and surely
the sun will shine through.*

*My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest,
remembering all, how I truly was blessed.*

Continue traditions, no matter how small.

Go on with your life, don't just stare at the wall.

*I miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin,
until the day comes we're together again.”*

A Limb Has Fallen

*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

Crossing the Bar

*Don't think of him as gone away—
his journey's just begun,
life holds so many facets—
this earth is only one...*

*Just think of him as resting
from the sorrows and the tears
in a place of warmth and comfort
where there are no days and years.*

*Think how he must be wishing
that we could know today
how nothing but our sadness
can really pass away.*

*And think of him as living
in the hearts of those he touched...
for nothing loved is ever lost—
and he was loved so much.*

Journey

*When I come to the end of the road,
And the sun has set for me,
Remember, I'm free of a heavy load.*

Don't 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 all shared.*

Miss me - but let me go.

*This is a journey we all have to take,
And each must go alone.*

*It's just a part of our Master's plan,
A step on the long road home.*

*When you're 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.*

— Louise Nelms

Miss Me...But Let Me Go

*Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
and danced the skies on laughter-silvered
wings; Sunward I've climbed, and joined the
tumbling mirth of sun-split clouds — and
done a hundred things you have not dreamed
of — wheeled and soared and swung high in
the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there, I've chased
the shouting wind along, and flung my eager
craft through footless halls of air. Up, up the
long delirious burning blue I've topped the
windswept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, nor even eagle flew.
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
the high untrespassed sanctity of space, put
out my hand, and touched the face of God.*

— John Gillespie Magee, Jr.

High Flight

*You can shed tears that he is gone,
or you can smile because he has lived.
You can close your eyes and
pray that he'll come back,
or you can open your eyes and see all he's left.
Your heart can be empty
because you can't see him,
or you can be full of the love 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 only that he is gone,
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'd want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.*

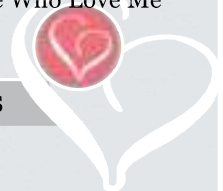
Smile Because He Lived

*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 you my love and you can only guess,
How much you gave me in happiness.
I thank you for the love you each have shown,
But now it's time I traveled on alone.
So grieve awhile for me, if grieve you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for awhile 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."*

To Those I Love & Those Who Love Me

Poetry Selections

All of our poems are also available in Spanish.



*When I must leave you
for a little while,
Please go on bravely
with a gallant smile
And for my sake and in my name,
Live on and do all things the same —
Spend not your life in 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.*

— Helen Steiner Rice

When I Must Leave You

*“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’s gilt on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn’s rain.
When you awaken in the morning’s hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled 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.”*

Autumn Rain

*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.*

After Glow

*A life well-lived is a
precious gift of hope
and strength and grace
from someone who has made
our world a brighter, better place.
It’s filled with moments sweet and sad,
with smiles and sometimes tears,
with friendships formed
and good times shared
and laughter through the years.
A life well-lived is a legacy of joy
and pride and pleasure,
a loving, lasting memory
our grateful hearts will treasure.*

A Life Well Lived

*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.*

Taps

*It takes us back to brighter times
To happier sunlit days
And to precious moments
That will be with us always.
For these fond recollections
Are treasured in the heart
To bring us always close to those
From whom we had to part
There is a bridge of memories
From earth to heaven above.
It keeps our dear ones near us
It’s the bridge that we call “Love.”*

— Author Unknown

A Bridge Called Love

*Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.*

— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

A Psalm of Life

*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 place at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Ah 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 hearts and share with me
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

I’m Free

Poetry Selections

All of our poems are also available in Spanish.



We little knew that morning that
 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 peaceful memories,
 your love is still our guide,
 and though we cannot see you,
 you are always by 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.

— Ron Tranmer

Broken Chain

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.
 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.

God's Garden

One night a man had a dream...He was
 walking along the beach with the Lord, and across
 the sky flashed scenes from his life. In each scene,
 he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one
 made by him, and the other by the Lord.
 When the last scene of his life flashed before
 him, he looked at the footprints in the sand, and
 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 worst times of his life.
 This bothered him, so he asked 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 You left me when I needed You
 most."
 The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love
 you and would never leave you...During your times
 of trouble where you see only one set of footprints, I
 was carrying you."

— Author Unknown

Footprints

To every thing there is a season, and a time to
 every purpose under the heaven:
 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to
 plant, and a time to pluck up that which
 is planted;
 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break
 down, and a time to build up;
 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to
 mourn, and a time to dance;
 A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather
 stones together; a time to embrace, and a
 time to refrain from embracing;
 A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep,
 and a time to cast away;
 A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep
 silence, and a time to speak;
 A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war,
 and a time of peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

To Every Thing There is a Season

God saw you getting tired,
 and a cure was not to be.
 So He put His arms around you
 and whispered, "Come with Me."
 With tearful eyes we
 watched you slowly fade away.
 Although we loved you dearly,
 we would not make you stay.
 A golden heart stopped beating,
 your hard-working hands put to rest,
 God broke our hearts to prove to us
 He only takes the best.

God Saw You

If tears could build a stairway,
 and memories were a lane, I
 would walk right up to heaven
 and bring you home 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 in sadness, and secret tears
 still flow. What it meant to lose
 you, no one will ever know.

If Tears Could Build A Stairway

I am home 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.
 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.

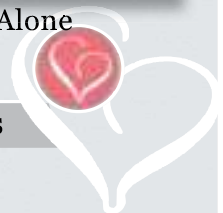
Safely Home

If death should beckon me
 with outstretched hand
 and whisper softly of
 "An Unknown Land",
 I shall not be afraid to go,
 for though the path I do not know,
 I take death's hand without a fear.
 For He who safely brought me here
 will also take me safely back,
 and though in many things I lack,
 He will not let me go alone
 into the "Valley That's Unknown"...
 So I reach out and take death's hand
 and journey to the "Promised Land!"

I Do Not Go Alone

Poetry Selections

All of our poems are also available in Spanish.



*I had a lot to do,
just like some of you.
You wonder why I rest,
It's that I finished early.
I started out on time,
even though the choice was mine,
there were things I couldn't control
and I finished early.
I thought the road was too long,
I asked the Lord to keep me strong,
and I tried to run the race,
it's just that I finished early.
I am not a quitter, my friend,
I kept on fighting till the end,
and the only thing I can say is
that I finished early.*

I Finished Early

*God saw the road was getting rough,
The hills were hard to climb;
He gently closed those loving eyes,
And whispered, "Peace by thine."
The weary hours, the days of pain,
The sleepless nights are passed;
The ever patient worn-out frame
Has found sweet rest at last.
God saw that he was getting weary,
So He did what He knew best,
He came and stood beside him,
And whispered, "Come and rest."
He bade no one a last farewell,
Not even a good-bye
He was gone before we knew it,
And only God knows why.
Sleep on, and take your rest,
We love you, but God loved you best.*

Only God Knows Why

*Hail Mary,
Full of Grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now,
and at the hour of death.
Amen.*

Hail Mary

*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 shall dwell in
the house of the Lord for ever.*

The Twenty Third Psalm

*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;
where there is sadness, joy.*

*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.*

Prayer of St. Francis

*Our Father, Who 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.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen*

The Lord's Prayer

*O Gentlest Heart of Jesus,
ever present in the Blessed
Sacrament, ever consumed with
burning love for the poor captive souls
in Purgatory, have mercy on the Soul
of Thy departed servant. Be not
severe in Thy judgement but let some
drops of Thy precious blood fall upon
the devouring flames, and do Thou
O merciful Saviour send Thy angels
to conduct Thy departed servant to a
place of refreshment, light and peace.
Amen.
May the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen.*

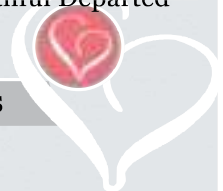
O Gentlest Heart of Jesus

*O, God,
The Creator and Redeemer
Of All the Faithful,
Grant to the Souls
Of Thy Servants departed
The remission of all their sins;
That through pious supplications
They may obtain the pardon
Which they have always desired
Who livest and reignest
World without end.
Amen.*

Prayer For All The Faithful Departed

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Remember O most gracious Virgin Mary that never was it known that anyone who fled to Thy protection, implored Thy help, and sought Thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto Thee, O Virgin of virgins, My Mother! To Thee I come; before Thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. Oh Mother of the Word Incarnate! Despise not my petitions, but in Thy mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

Memorare

*May the road rise
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.*

Irish Blessing

Magnified and sanctified be His great name in the world which He hath created according to His will. May He establish His Kingdom during your life and during your days and during the life of all the house of Israel, even speedily and at a near time, and say ye, Amen.

Let His great name be blessed for ever and to all eternity.

Blessed, praised and glorified, exalted, extolled and honored, magnified and lauded be the name of the Holy One, blessed be He; though He be high above all the blessing and hymns, praises and consolations, which are uttered in the world; and say ye, Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life for us and for all Israel; and say ye, Amen.

He who maketh peace in His high places, may He make peace for us and for all Israel; and say ye, Amen.

— Hebrew version also available —

Mourner's Kaddish

*God needed an angel in Heaven
To stand at the Savior's feet;
His choice must be the rarest
A lily pure and sweet.
He gazed upon the mighty throng
Then stopped and picked the best,
Our child was His chosen one
With Jesus she's now at rest.*

God's Little Angel

*If only the sky could open;
And his dear little face I could see;
Oh, what a wonderful feeling;
I know would come over me.
But he is with the Angels;
Far from sin and pain;
Where Jesus said: "Believe in Me;
And thou shalt see him again".*

With The Angels

*Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the Lord my soul to keep
If I should die before I wake
I pray the Lord my soul to take.*

Bedtime Prayer

*She was so very, very special
And was so from the start
You held her in your arms
But mainly in your heart
And like a single drop of rain
That on still waters fall,
Her life did ripples make
And touched the lives of all.
She's gone to play with angels
In heaven up above
So keep your special memories
And treasure them with love
Although your darling daughter
Was with you just a while
She'll live on in your heart
With a sweet remembered smile.*

A Special Girl (Boy version available)

*Our darling has gone to the angels above;
Where there's nothing but
happiness, joy and love.
Gone from this world, so full of strife;
Back to the God who gave her life.
But rejoice that God chose
our sweet flower for His own;
And has taken her back to
His Heavenly home.*

Heavenly Home

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