

Poems

Afterglow

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.

Rest in Peace

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 will miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face
No one can fill your vacant place.

Do Not Stand

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 gift of snow.

I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the autumn's gentle 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.

Sunny Skies

All sunny skies would be too bright,
All morning hours mean too much light,

All laughing days too gay a strain;
There must be clouds, and night, and rain,

And shut-in days, to make us see

The beauty of life's tapestry.

Poems

When I must leave

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.

To One In Sorrow

Let me come in where you are weeping, friend,
And let me take your hand.

I, who have known a sorrow such as yours,
Can understand.

Let me come in -- I would be very still,
Beside you in your grief;

I would not bid you cease your weeping, friend,
Tears bring relief.

Let me come in -- I would only breathe a
prayer,
And hold your hand,

For I have known a sorrow such as yours,
And understand.

Grace Noll Crowell

Gone To Rest

Fill not your heart with pain and sorrow
But remember me in every tomorrow

Remember the joy and the laughter
and the smile
I've only gone to rest for a little while

So dry your eyes and remember me
Not as I am but as I used to be

Because I will remember you all
and look on with a smile
I have only gone to rest for a little while

As long as I have the love of each of you
I can live my life
In the hearts of all of you.

Wings Against Sun

Forever earthbound are my feet,
Upon the rocky road ahead,

But high among the clouds, my thoughts,
And so my heart is comforted.

And if one shoulder aches,
I shift The burden to the other side,

Remembering the times I've laughed,
And not the ones in which I've cried.

Too short indeed these precious years,
To let a dream die needlessly,
Beyond tomorrow there awaits
A time and place designed for me,

And old hopes rising one by one,
Are golden wings against the sun!

Grace E. Easley

Poems**She is Gone**

You can shed tears that she is gone
or you can smile because she has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that she'll
come back or you can open your eyes and see
all she's left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see
her 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 her and only that she's gone
or you can cherish her memory and let it live
on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and
turn your back or you can do what she'd want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

(This can be used on a Memorial Folder only)

He is Gone

You can shed tears that he is gone
or you can smile because he has lived.

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**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 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 a while for me, if grieve you must,
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a little 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 of my love around you soft and clear.
And then, when you must come this way alone,
I'll greet you with a smile and "welcome home".

(This can be used on a Memorial Folder only)

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.

Amen

Stars and Stripes

The Stars and Stripes, they flew forever
always in his heart.

He was loyal to his nation and bravely did his
part.

Always thinking of his brother ever in his
mind.

He stood for love of country and most of
all mankind.

Now gazing down with his Master
through a light and heavenly cloud,

He's still looking out for us
of whom he is so proud.

The Hero

The angel hovered just above-
The lifeless form below-
A life that started with a cry-
Not many years ago.

Come now my son, you must arise-
Your work here now is ended-

You have fought for right and freedom-
Your country you have defended.

We go now to another place-
Where peace and love abide-

And join your comrades who will greet you-
In your heavenly home on high.

All those you love, and those who love you-
In their hearts you will forever be-
The one who gave his very all-
That the living may be free.