

Life

by Okie Howe, 1997, age 91

I've searched my soul but hard as I've tried
I find my religion is "unclassified"
I believe in nature and laughter and love
And goodness and mercy and a God up above.
The sun and the rain and the winds that blow
And a hundred earthy things that I know
But I don't fit in, in a civilized way
To the rules and the customs that people say.
My heaven's on earth; it's the things that I share
With the whole human race-I really care.
And when I'm gone and just ashes remain
I'll be part of the earth and the wind and the rain
It's my "everlasting"- it seems right to me
In the big scheme of life, it's the way it should be.

Life has been good and I don't fear the night
It's part of God's plan and I know it's all right.