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## Perspective

Jennifer Grahnquist

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at Banner State? Everyone is so proud of her. She took that basketball talent to its heights." Then quietly, "Tom and I never talked about it, but I know he was proud of her and happy for you."

"Yes, thank you. Helen, we have too much to say now. Let's have coffee one day soon and catch up."

Willie stood, and Helen stood beside her. "Of course that makes sense. Thank you, Willie. Will Jackie be here today?"

"No, she's coaching a basketball tournament. They have a chance at a trophy this year. Give our condolences to Thoma Lynn and Rhona."

"Please tell Jackie we follow her team and wish them well. I've heard she's a wonderful coach." As Willie walked to the back of the chapel, Helen turned to the casket. Then neighbors, friends, and family stopped to extend condolences and share memories. Some remembered how Tom loaned them money, fixed their cars or gave them rides when they were younger.

Finally, joined by her two daughters, she sat in the front row where armchairs were set up for family members.

The service began with the voice of Jim Reeves singing "Knock and the door will open; seek and ye shall find; ask and you'll be given, but leave those cares behind." Tom was not religious, but he loved that song.

".....leave those cares." Helen's mind derailed, and once again she asked for strength to get through this day. Squeezing the arms of the chair, her knuckles turned white. She had vowed she wouldn't cry, and she didn't - not then - not in front of everyone.

## Perspective

JENNIFER GRAHNQUIST

I stand upon the mountain  
 And look across the plain,  
 But for that layered, rocky range  
 My eyes will search in vain.  
 That's the mountains' paradox:  
 One cannot see them from the rocks.  
 You must step back to see the view  
 That time and space unlocks.  
 Yet not to venture from below,  
 There would be sights you'd never know,  
 Respective of perspective  
 That only height will show.  
 And so I alternate the two:  
 "Of" and "from" the mountain view.  
 Westward up and eastward down,  
 Learning things I never knew.