

Ode to an Educator¹

Written by Ken Scott

It was the first day of class, as he walked into the room,
We students gazed upon ourselves with anticipated doom.
Before us stood a giant, reputation large as Life,
A man of great education, family, children, and wife.

The words he spoke gave rise, to knowledge without end,
We fathomed little of those words, our minds refused amends.
Hopelessness abounded, it seemed that we were doomed,
To meet the expectations of this man professionally groomed.

Then from the gaze he did see, our faces as of stone,
Sensing our fear and dread, we knew we were not alone.
He labored over subject matter, and dread and doom fled away,
For now we knew this man of wonder, here with us to stay.

He reached down to our level, to open our minds anew,
His method of sharing knowledge, so great our minds it blew.
We learned more than we fathomed, his teaching a cleansing rain,
Because of him, his love of student, we lost all sense of learning-pain.

The quintessential master, of knowledge without end,
He never faltered, never failed, to teach us time-and-time again.
We forever gained a friend, whose goal for us was best,
He stands this day head and shoulders high above the rest.

Because of his unselfish drive, success his students he chose,
A ripple on the learning-pond has now forever arose.
For all of us who learned from him, his words now from above,
Of teaching students the art to learn, and learning to always love.

Oh this world so dire, for more and more like him,
To reach the hopeless learner, to bring hope back to them.
The lessons of this great educator, lost they shall never be,
For he epitomizes the very best for you and me.

Poetry Contest Winners

Student Winners		Faculty/Staff Winners	
1 st Place	Andrew E. Charles	1 st Place	Beverly Ross
2 nd Place	Stella Marie Facey	2 nd Place	Ken Scott
3 rd Place	Matthew Lawrence	3 rd Place	Ethel Taylor
Honorable Mention	Sharron Blackmon	Honorable Mention	NA

¹ Inspired by and dedicated to Dr. Jim Manning, PhD, PE.