Tend To My Grave

Kevin Whalen

Tend to my grave — I want ashes not bones And shade from tall trees — not a cold headstone See that it's quiet — left mostly alone I never minded — being on my own

Tend to my grave – every once in a while Bring along some grace, to - help me reconcile Choices that I made – when love was exiled Self-absolution – so often futile

> Plant wildflowers – and ferns if they'll grow Blue bells and trillium – where the Shenandoah flows

Tend to my grave – at the evening gloam

Gather the regrets, that – *I could not let go*Toss them to the river – or the wind as it blows

Give peace a chance for – this desperate soul

Tend to my grave – should you get a chance So much comes down to – one's can's and one's cant's But we can't avoid our - last circumstance So I face and embrace this - final expanse

Plant wildflowers – and ferns if they'll grow Blue bells and trillium – where the Shenandoah flows

Plant wildflowers – and ferns if they'll grow Blue bells and trillium – down where the Shenandoah flows