

Kindness

By Glenn Currier

Have you ever known a person
who escaped apt description
whose depth was too deep
whose gifts were so vast
whose voice was so gentle
and whose smile disarmed
every ounce of malice
hiding within you?

Have you ever known someone
whose boundless generosity
made you wonder
if you deserved it?

Have you ever encountered
a man whose charm
was matched only by his sincerity
and the depth of his desire
to make you feel at home
in *his* home, *his* city, *his* world
so you knew for sure
what was *his*
was *yours*?

You are a fortunate human being
if you have known another
who did not seem *other* at all
but just like *you*
in all the *good* places in you

in whose presence you were certain
you really *are* a special person?

I would say that I *knew* such a person
but instead I say I *know* Don Haywood
because this sort of kindness
stays with you
and resides within
the softest
brightest
most loving
and open
and clear room
in your soul.

Dedicated to Don Haywood [July 31, 1938 - April 24, 2013] and Rodger Landers, his life partner of 42 years.