Mother 2-21-15

After she had gone

I knew only the shell

The woman she had been

I could not tell

She protected us both

The best that she could

But I did not like

What she had become

Bitter and old

With a vengeful mood

She struck out at us both

Leaving scars never healed

When cancer came

And took her away

Hospital bound

My sister and me

I felt Mother’s soul

On her final day

She was so afraid

Reaching out for me

‘Let go” I told her

“It will be all right’

And so she did leave us

Alone she died

Now I am older

Beyond her age

That doorway much nearer

Much closer my view

I think on the past

On life’s brutal lessons

And have learned to forgive

And love her anew

She lived in a time

When women were less

Their children were all

Their men questionless

But she was beyond

The time of her peers

A woman of the future

Fated to live in the past

And so she did live

The best that she could

Her children she loved

And wished only the best

Her own tattered life

Left her scared and frustrated

May God heal her soul

And grant her happiness