

My Mom
25 December 1918 – 15 September 2009

Christmas-born baby
sturdy hardscrabble farm-folk
third of six, five boys

learned love from Grandma
sacrificed past my knowing
selflessness unseen

music, prized heirloom
kindness, greatest gift of all
I sip from her depth

I claim no esteem
by genes and her example
she created me

village raises child
nature's treasures I'm bequeathed
but first, my mother



Photo circa 1919

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