



*An Ode to a Girl I met on the Beach of a Lake Called Joanna
Her name was Virginia Lee Hargis from Umatilla, Florida*

Time it does strange things to our face
as it takes us to so many a place
It grayeth our hair, and dimmeth our stare
But filleth our lives with grace!

"From the fulness of His Grace we have received one blessing after another" John 1:16



She was a chicken farmer's daughter and her name was "Ginna Lee", with golden hair and eyes of blue, and a look that paralyzed me.
I had no money and I had no car, which today would cook my goose, but something told my feeble young mind, "Don't ever turn her loose".
So I told her then I'd marry her when my learning was completed. And for seven long years in joy and in tears, while other guys competed
Angels must have wondered as thru college I blundered if I ever could pull it off. But when a kid has luck and a little bit of pluck, beware, my friend, don't scoff!
Her Dad soon learned that this kid she should spurn, but My Lord did a work on her Mother.. And The Lord kept her well within a sorta spell, so she wouldn't succumb to another.

The others were there with slicked down hair, and with groves and cars and such, While I was away to learn to preach and to pray, and for prospects, well not much!
I worked my way thru college while absorbing some knowledge and preaching here and there for a mite. With my AB degree it was plain to see that I needed to further my learning.
God saw my dire plight and arranged things just right, a scholarship to Eastern Baptist, in Philadelphia, the City of brotherly love. They wanted things level in fighting the devil, and they wanted to booklearn one Rebel.
I was fond of the fellowship and needed the scholarship and it was a fine seminary. But one of the rules to all students was, "While here you cannot marry".
A year and a half in such a big city in the midst of millions aroused my self pity! "I can't preach by myself, I need Ginna Lee". I said it then; I say it today." I just can't live another way"!

"Carry Me Back To Ole Virginy". to those Yanks it was just a song, but my heart said to me, "It really can't be that to marry Ginna Lee could be wrong". So that Christmas vacation I managed to hasten, --and Virginia and I were wed.
When the Faculty learned that their rule we had spurned, they made me feel like a Fool!, but they let me finish that year while they shook their head and each of them said, "You'll do better at some other school".



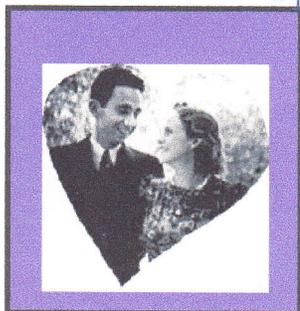
Poco enters the picture err Poem at this point even though he's not a Pointer, or even a Poemeranian and asks:

"Hey, How long will this doggerel continue?"

Patience Poco Every dog has its day I've been told.

Besides I now had Virginia as my Far-Better half and the half hasn't yet been told!

Banished from the City of Brotherly love by the Faculty, as they gave me a shove I promised those lerned gentlemen "I swear I'll never do it again" SELAH!



Who would want to when you've got **Everything!**
So I noncholantly walk out the front door of Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary and head South.....To be continued

