



## **Birthday Wish**

By Shannon Ausman

Today is my birthday.  
The card is signed,  
“Love, Mom, Dad, Poco, (and Chris)”

Mom is my mom,  
Dad is my dad,  
Poco is my poodle,  
Chris is my brother.  
He’s dead.

Seven months and four days  
Since he was killed.  
Today is my birthday, and  
All I want is him.

My present would be  
Six-feet, seven inches tall  
With a tow-head top,  
Wide at the shoulders and  
Narrow at the hips.

Big hand, one hammer thumb,  
Blue eyes...  
A big heart -  
And I’d like him wrapped in life!

He’s in a box,  
But there’s no bow.

*By Shannon Ausman—Asotin, Washington  
Bereavement Magazine September 1992*