

The Dash

I read of a man who stood to speak

At the funeral of a friend He referred to the dates on her tombstone

From the beginning to the end He noted that first came her date of her birth

And spoke the following date with tears,

But she said what mattered most of all

Was the dash between those years

For that dash represents all the time

That she spent alive on earth.

And now only those who loved her

Know what that little line is worth. For it matters not how much we own:

The cars, the house, the cash, What matters is how we live and love

And how we spend our dash. So think about this long and hard.

Are there things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left,

That can still be rearranged. If we could just slow down enough

To consider what's true and real And always try to understand The way other people feel. And be less quick to anger, And show appreciation more And love the people in our lives Like we've never loved before. If we treat each other with respect,

And more often wear a smile Remembering that this special dash

Might only last a little while. So, when your eulogy is being read

With your life's actions to rehash Would you be proud of the things they say

About how you spent your dash?

