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Grandma and Grandpa: Real People

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SMILESMITH

(sigh) Goodbye!

One more velvet one to gather dust on the shelf.
The beautiful discarded for the practical! Too
bad the trade-in value on dreams, toward reality,
is so low this year.

Well...that's THE GAME!

Guess I'd better get back to work.

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GRANDMA AND GRANDPA: REAL PEOPLE/ Karen Gernant

They were real:

He, with his "Jiminy cricket" when told
of our escapades; with his shiny,
bald head--still demanding
haircuts; with his cane and
slow, sure walk; with his
quiet understanding.

She, with her every-ready cookies
and candy; with silvery hair
touched with brown; with her
tender care of plants and
flowers...and kids; with her
sweet, friendly smiles, her easy laughs.

Oh, they were real; they were good...
and when they left,
my fourteen years cried: Why?

No answer came...not then,

but time has told me--
told me that they led full lives;
that they had done their jobs, and,
having done them well,
deserved a peace and rest.

Time has told me.

They were real.