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Tribute to Barbara Salken

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Tribute

Professor Salken:

In a small and measured space
of time and memory, we met,
the rose, and the empty vase.

Plain cut crystal, holding nothing but potential;
just the power to frame the flower
that is wisdom, shared so freely.

How unkind a fate would befall the barren vessel
whose ken did not the rose include.

So grief, while strong, is brief and not a burden,
for the vase retains the scent of that perfume.

Oh lovely rose, it was an honor and a pleasure
to behold your loving charm and gracious face.
Though your petals, once so pretty, now have fallen,
your inspiration has forever filled the vase.

With Love and Respect,

Your Students