



Loving Two Men

By Kathleen M. Rehl

Last August I tied the knot again
Walked down the aisle to exchange wedding vows
Charlie says I'm a blessing
Love my new husband so much.

But I also love Tom
Late husband's death 12 years ago
Devastated me
He had been my all.

Vowed to always be together
Through good and not-so-great times
Promised to never marry another
Cancer crashed our party.

Before passing, he said,
"Forget that promise we made years ago
Find a new love
Don't live your life alone."

Didn't want to hear his words
I'd never love again; How could I?
Didn't want the gift of his advice
I was wrong.

Four years into widowhood,
Intense grief softened
Charlie with a similar story
Before his wife died, she advised him to remarry.

Dated cautiously
Respectful of past spouses, marriages, families and finances
Transitioned over time
After eight years together, picked out wedding rings.

Will always love late husband, Tom
Very different than love for new husband, Charlie
Blessed with two amazing loves
Will always be Tom's widow
Am also now Charlie's wife.