



James Jarrell  
*Resident for 6 years*

Your life is a great story.  
Give it the perfect setting.

Escape to simplicity. Enjoy new friendships. It's time to do what you want to do, when you want to do it. Here is a community founded on the idea that senior living should be comfortable and secure, absolutely, but also much more. How about purposeful and vibrant? *Life in all its shining brilliance—that's retirement at Arbor Acres.*

  
Arbor Acres  
United Methodist Retirement Community  
Purposeful Retirement  
*in Comfort and Security*

1240 ARBOR RD. WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27104 | 336-724-7921

[www.arboracres.org](http://www.arboracres.org)

## WRITER'S CORNER



### What's Not Left

By Sam Barbee

Hands clasp the Tube Rose can after she has heard me. The snuff's pungent scent spills on her breath. She answers each question, dabbing corners of her lips in between. Clarity

clothed in a wince, she explains all things must leave you one day, even her lemon-yellow canary, like the emerald mate a season ago. Comfortable, over-upholstered chair

positioned by a window, she picks at doilies protecting threadbare arms. Grandmothers know quandaries are the same. Counsel and notions are the same, disturbances too.

Only her throne needs shielding.

Draped in fatigue, conscious what else has been taken, she locates ebullient truth,

eloquent reformation wrapped in prayer:

weeping spends the night, while joy comes in the morning. As the cage hangs empty, door open, she motions out the window, over the hill, and explains the pair are together, there

in some bird heaven, tending one another, exalting in a persimmon tree, in a grove, near a calm lake where old fishermen offer them skewered gills of their catch, and toss the long-day's leftover worms onto the shore.

*Sam Barbee's poems have appeared Crucible, Asheville Poetry Review, Potato Eyes, Georgia Journal, St. Andrews Review, Charlotte Poetry Review, and Pembroke Magazine.*

*He was awarded an "Emerging Artist" grant from the Winston-Salem Arts Council in 1994 to publish his first collection Changes of Venue (Mount Olive Press). He has been a featured poet on the North Carolina Public Radio Station WFDD and received the 59th Poet Laureate Award from the North Carolina Poetry Society for his poem "The Blood Watch."*