

Winning Poems in 2022 CFCP, Inc., Annual Contest

4. Light or Humorous, Third Place

**Love at 78**

I am way past the age to date  
I mean a real "date, date"  
to heels and hose  
a candlelit dinner in a fancy place.  
It's almost scary!

But I am flattered to be asked.  
When I said, "Yes, of course. I'd love to," I felt a buzz.  
I know people who date at 65, 75  
but I am beyond that now.

I will soon be ringing the doorbell of 80.  
And who is this guy, really?  
At the moment, I can't visualize his face.

He has a mountain of kids and grandkids.  
Maybe he has lived the American Dream.

Seriously, is it possible to fall in love at 78  
even with buckets of flattery as wide and tall as a  
fourteen-tiered wedding cake?

But who said anything about a wedding?

Carol Quinlan  
Modesto, CA