

## Where I'm From

I am from shag carpets  
That beg to be laid upon  
From matchbox cars and broken-in furniture  
To pass the lazy days of summer.

I am from tomato plants  
Spilling red across the yard  
From tobacco fields  
Where character was born.

I am from dirt roads and general stores  
And small town southern life  
From next-door neighbors  
Too far away to see.

I am from Uncle Brother  
Whose name always confused me  
From Sawyer family reunions  
And country folk gettin dressed up.

I am from "Rise 'n Shine"  
Too early every morning  
From "I'll give you something to cry about"  
And following through if you called their bluff.

I am from spaghetti and French fries  
Which only made sense to us  
From vegetable soup  
That'll cure anything that ails ya.

I am from photo albums  
Documenting life  
From boxes in the attic  
That prove I was here.

I am from love  
A kind unparalleled  
From pride and thanks  
In knowing where I'm from.

~Michael Cook