

## LATE EXPECTATIONS

True companionship in marriage  
Boasts a beauty all its own:  
Wedded lovers form a fragrance  
They could not give off alone . . .  
Yet, through intimately growing  
By the common bond they share,  
In their garden of embracing  
Sprouts a dream to match their care.

When that wish was long maturing,  
When the yearning lingered late,  
At the news of fertile blessing,  
Couples find it hard to wait!  
Culmination of such longing  
Binds their hearts more sweetly still,  
Deepens meaning in their oneness  
With anticipation's thrill.

Love's familiar gaze of friendship  
Mirrors back their mated souls  
To reflect bright expectations  
Of new challenges and goals,  
Of fresh tasks and new adventures,  
Hopes and worries, joys and tears,  
Soon arriving in the bundle  
They've envisioned through the years.

— *David L. Hatton, 11/29/93*