



A Grand Number

I think ninety is an old and grand number
for a birthday
much like a rest stop
on a distance race
where the view of the whole is wide and long.

I expected that those we would meet at this pilgrimage site
should need to rest
as much as taking in the view
but what I found
in the ones I knew best was
that they were ready to go on
with our race
while we were the ones who wanted to rest...
if the truth were told.

I still think that ninety is a grand number
for a birthday
but no longer old.

E.F.P.
8/05/01

*In honor of Thelma Davis on the occasion of her birthday
and in memory of my parents and great grandmother.*

