

The Passed Away

by Gary Hardaway

People don't pass away.
They die. Like John Lennon died.
Like Jimi Hendix died. Like
George Harrison died.
Like Keith Moon and
Freddie Mercury died.
Like Princess Grace
and Princess Dianna died
Died is forever. Passed away
Is ambiguous. Dead isn't
polite. Dead is actual,
beyond redemption and
recovery. Passed away
is bullshit, an avoidance,
polite, but deadlier than death.

