

# 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.

