

## Ode to Susan

In the town on the plateau off Brush Mountain  
lived a kind and gentle soul who loved the land.  
She arrived in the highlands, went to Tech and earned degrees  
and like many never left again, the valley works its peace.

Loyal and dependable, she quickly earned respect  
and the town soon entrusted her to lead.  
So she penned the grants and taught the locals  
just what it would take  
to make The Burg sustainable,  
a greener kind of place:

Reduce, reuse, recycle  
Plant more flowers, grow more trees  
A place for old computers, plasma screens and batteries  
Collect water in a rain barrel, conserve precious energy;  
Reduce your carbon footprint  
Use CFLs and LEDs.

An environmental steward with horticulture roots,  
Susan trimmed the streets with baskets  
and we had a better look.  
Now we live in a "tree city"  
and "Best place to raise a family."  
We smile and nod with pride at her success.

Now our Susan is up in heaven  
and it's an even better place  
For she's rallied all the angels  
and persuaded all the saints  
You see ... now on those glittering streets of gold  
sit new and shiny blue recycle bins.

We miss you, Susan, and honor everything you did for our town.

Jean Elliott