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## **Whispers from the Grave** (Heart attack 50 years of age)

**Michael Lee Johnson**

What happened to 20 acres of farmland tilted toward sun angles,  
those sharp stone edges cool fall comes  
frost fields covered taking ownership of rented, abused, abandoned land—  
10 years Phil has been gone, DeKalb, Illinois farmer.

Did he find salvation in those gold cornfields?  
October orange colors, hayrides, and pumpkin harvest  
of grey, grave bones buried near the deadly bicycle ride.  
Mystery did his lover Betsy  
(defense, prosecuting attorney, Elgin, Illinois)  
stand by his site after she went through mourning,  
the grandstanding at the wake at the farm,  
the dimming of all candles, incenses, and memorial shrine  
she held sacred within her bedroom walls, now faded.

### **Biographical Details:**

Michael Lee Johnson lived ten years in Canada during the Vietnam era. He is a Canadian and USA citizen. Today he is a poet, editor, publisher, freelance writer, amateur photographer, small business owner in Itasca, Illinois. He has been published in more than 935 small press magazines in 29 countries, and he edits 10 poetry sites. Author's website <http://poetryman.mysite.com/>. Michael is the author of *The Lost American: From Exile to Freedom* (136 page book) ISBN: 978-0-595-46091-5, several chapbooks of poetry, including *From Which Place the Morning Rises* and *Challenge of Night and Day*, and *Chicago Poems*. He also has over 118 poetry videos on YouTube as of 2015: <https://www.youtube.com/user/poetrymanusa/videos>. Michael Lee Johnson, Itasca, IL, nominated for 2 Pushcart Prize awards for poetry 2015 & Best of the Net 2016. Visit his Facebook Poetry Group and join <https://www.facebook.com/groups/807679459328998/>. He is also the editor/publisher of anthology, *Moonlight Dreamers of Yellow Haze*: <http://www.amazon.com/dp/1530456762>. A second poetry anthology, *Dandelion in a Vase of Roses*, Editor Michael Lee Johnson, is due for a February or March 2017 release.