**The Departure**



I shall miss our departed Queen, even though we never met

And the fact that we did not do so, is much to my regret.

Our Elizabethan age has ended and the future’s looking dark.

War in Europe, global warming, predictions that are stark.

We look for leaders of stature, and find absence it would seem.

We had such people once before, but perhaps they were a dream

They led us through the war years, when Empire began to fall

They founded modern Britain – the Queen would have met them all

What did she really think of them and all those who faced a test?

It is likely that we shall never know; Royal discretion at its best.

Her son will no longer express his views, and we will wonder why.

I have no wish to take his place, ‘God Save the King,’ say I.

Paul Haworth

147 words