

Peter:

This is a tribute to our friend Peter
Who we love more than the Yanks love Jeeter
He's smart and sharp as proverbial tacks
In personal grooming there's nothing he lacks
His clothes are perfect, his bearing regal
His arguments brilliant, and usually legal
He's a perfect dad, husband and loyal friend
And we'll love and treasure him to the end.

So now let's get to his many successes
Before we get mired in gushy excesses.

There are too many areas in which he excelled
(In most of them, all his friends have just kvelled)
So let us take the more recent invention
Since others are simply too numerous to mention.

Public Affairs was his big brainchild
At first it seemed a little wild
What? Asked pundits far and near
Don't pay what sales can't hope to come near?
Don't gamble the usual crazy way
On hunches, the past and what others might pay.
Instead look for quality and the personal touch
And authors will benefit just as much
Cause their books will reach readers, which is the idea
And the publishers won't have bankruptcy to fear.

And behold, it worked and the books started to flow
On subjects quite varied, mostly high, none too low
The authors were happy, they did what they do
And then Peter and the reader made the brew that was true.

So Happy Birthday dear Peter from all of us
Who are privileged to join in this wonderful fuss.

So who do you turn to when insanity's the rule
When the leader of our country is a goddamn fool
When immigrants suffer and Muslims attacked
When every day with guilt we are wracked
When wherever we look it's hard to find hope
It's hard to find strength and it's hard not to mope.
Well, you who are here know exactly what to do
You call up Susan who is fighting for you.
She's calm and even and resolute and strong
And she makes you believe that right will beat wrong.
She'll never give up and yet never despair
She'll urge you to resist and still calm your fear.
And that's why dear Susan, I still love you so
As much or more than I did
twenty odd years ago.