

**REQUIEM FOR A DEPARTED FURNACE  
1906-2022**

I remember the thousands of times I walked over you  
when I would I travel from my two bedrooms, former and current  
to the dining room, bathroom and kitchen  
I remember walking over you to the bathroom  
in the middle of the night when I was little  
It was raining inside of the house  
I took my wet socks off and stepped over you  
I remember hanging my tights on a chair near you  
so they could dry faster  
I remember the thousands of guests  
and colleagues who walked over you  
to hang out with us  
or to interview or take pictures of us  
I remember sitting in the dining room chair  
You were behind us  
We would turn you on each morning  
Starting in early October and ending in early May  
As you slowly began to die  
we stood over you to get some heat  
We called PG&E  
The technician said, "I'm surprised you haven't been asked  
to get rid of the floor heater."  
There was no pilot light  
You lived as long as a turtle,  
surviving the earthquakes of 1906 and 1989  
and thousands of tremors and shakes  
A great grandpa heater  
As you departed for Things Heaven,  
we held on to the grate above you,  
which will remind us of how you comforted us