

## **Dolly Parton**

### **"Mammie"**

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Mammie delivered me into this world  
Mammie watched my mama die at my birth  
And Mammie she loved me she took me to raise  
Mammie was all I had on this earth

Let's get in the firewood, I'd hear Mammie say  
Let's go to the spring before it gets dark  
And you do up the dishes while the water's still hot  
And don't throw that dishwater out in the yard

Oh Mammie taught me how to sing a song  
She taught me to play her old guitar  
And at night before bedtime we'd sing for hours  
As the teakettle whistled along on the fire

And at night as I laid alone in my bed  
I'd hear Mammie praying and each night she said  
Oh dear God help me raise her to know right from  
wrong  
And I pray she'll do right even after I 'm gone.

I'd wait until Mammie had fallen asleep  
Then out of my window I'd quietly sneak  
And I'd wait by the mill pond according to plans  
And there in the darkness I'd meet a man

Oh it's not that I wanted to bring Mammie shame  
I just couldn't control wild blood in my veins  
They tell me my mama could not name my dad  
So I guess it was natural for me to be bad

One night I awoke at the sound of my name  
Come quickly, I heard Mammie cry  
She said you be good and I told her I would and  
That night I watched as my Mammie died

All I have now are the memories of Mammie  
And the goodness that loving her brought me  
Although she is gone in my heart she lives on  
And I know how much good she taught me.

Ah Mammie, I'm being good Mammie ...

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