

## Kenny Rogers

### "Son Of Hickory Hollers Tramp"

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The corn was dry, the weeds were high when Daddy  
took to drinkin'  
Then him and Lucy Walker, they took up and run away  
Mama cried a tear and then she promised fourteen  
children  
I swear you'll never see a hungry day.

When mama sacrificed her pride the neighbours  
started talkin'  
But I was much too young to understand a thing they  
said  
The things that mattered most of all was Mama's  
chicken dumplin's  
And a goodnight kiss before we went to bed.

Oh, the path was deep and wide from footsteps  
leading to our cabin  
Above the door there burned a scarlet lamp  
And late at night a hand would knock and there would  
stand a stranger  
Yes, I'm the son of Hickory Holler's tramp.

When daddy left and destitution came upon our family  
Not one neighbour volunteered to give a helpin' hand  
So let 'em gossip all they want, she loved us and she  
raised us  
The proof is standin' here, a full grown man.

Last summer Mama passed away and left the ones who  
loved her  
Each and every one was more than grateful for their  
birth  
Each Sunday she receives a fresh bouquet of fourteen  
roses  
And a card that says The greatest Mom on earth.

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