

Justin Tubb

"Ballad of Forty Dollars"

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(Tom T. Hall)

The man who preached the funeral said it really was a
simple way to die
He just laied down to rest one afternoon and never
opened up his eyes
They hired me and Fred and Joe to dig the grave and
carry up some chairs
It took us seven hours and I guess we must have drunk
a case of beer.

Well, I really I oughta go and watch them put him down
but I don't own the suit
And anyway when they start talking bout the fire and
hell well I get spooked
So I'll just sit here in my truck and act like I don't know
him when they pass
Anyhow when they're all through I've got to go to work
and mow the grass.

Well, here they come and who's that ridin' in that big ol'
shiny limousine
Hmm, look at all that chrome I do believe that that's the
sharpest thing I've seen
Well, that must belong to his great Uncle someone said
he owned a big ol' farm
When they get parked I'll mosey down and look it over
that can't do no harm.

Well, that must be the widow in the car would you take
a look at that
Boy that sure is a pretty dress you know some women
do look good in black
Why he's not even in the ground and I hear that his
track is up for sale
They say she took it pretty hard but you can't tell too
much behind a veil.

Well, listen ain't that pretty when the bugler plays the
military taps
I think that when you's in the war they always hired and

played a song like that
Well, here I am and there they go and I guess you
could call it my bad luck
I hope he'll rest in peace but trouble is that fellow owes
me forty bucks.

I hope he'll rest in peace but trouble is that fellow owes
me forty bucks...

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