

Tom T. Hall

"Carter Boys"

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(Tom T. Hall)

"It's a song about my brothers. We lived in Carter County, so we were called the Carter Boys. There were five of us and we just raised hell all the time."

The Carter boys were born one and after another
In a little old country place
I was the last and the death of my mother
And I know it was a pretty bad trace.

We'd get to drinking I'd do the singing
And they taught me to chase girls and cuss
We played poker I'd do the dealing
I was the only one we could trust.

And there were six of us all together
And that's how we stood all the time
Six of us all together
The Carter boys were brothers of mine.

We had an old car that we kept tied together
With pieces of baling wire and hope
Well they knew when we got there and they knew when we left
They could tell by the noise and the smoke.

Anytime the sheriff had nothing to do
He'd get out and chase us around
The old women prayed the old men laughed
And the middle aged people all frowned.

There were six of us all together
And that's how we stood all the time
Six of us all together
The Carter boys were brothers of mine.

Daddy was a preacher and the Lord knows he tried
Gave us everything he could afford

We lost a lotta battles but daddy always said
The only thing we feared was the Lord.

Well as I look back through the long lean years
I wonder how we ever survived
All of that hard work all of those women
And all of those pistols and knives.

There were six of us all together
And that's how we stood all the time
Six of us all together
The Carter boys were brothers of mine.

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Six of us all together
The Carter boys were brothers of mine...

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