

## Tom T. Hall

### "Year That Clayton Delaney Died"

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I remember the year that Clayton Delaney died  
They said for the last two weeks that he suffered and  
cried  
It made a big impression on me although I was a  
barefoot kid  
They said he got religion at the end and I'm glad that  
he did

Clayton was the best guitar picker in our town  
I thought he was a hero and I used to follow Clayton  
around  
I often wondered why Clayton who seemed so good to  
me  
Never took his guitar and made it down in Tennessee

Well daddy said he drank a lot but I could never  
understand  
I knew he used to pick up in Ohio with a five piece  
band  
Clayton used to tell me son you better put that old  
guitar away  
Ain't no money in it it'll lead you to an early grave

I guess if I'd admit it Clayton taught me how to drink  
booze  
I can see him half stoned a pickin' out the Lovesick  
Blues  
When Clayton died I made him a promise I was gonna  
carry on somehow  
I'd give a hundred dollars if he could only see me now

I remember the year that Clayton Delaney died  
Nobody ever knew it but I went out in the woods and I  
cried  
Well I know there's a lotta big preachers that know a lot  
more than I do  
But it could be that the good Lord likes a little picking  
too  
Yeah I remember the year that Clayton Delaney died

