

Mrs. Hamby's "I Am From" Poem

*I am from old country music.
From George Strait and Garth Brooks.
I am from the Grand Ol Opry stage.
Soothing, resonating, the sound of bluegrass and fiddles.*

*I am from my grandparents' house,
Playing the piano and swinging on the back porch.
I'm from church pews and long prayers.
From the Pierce family and the Byars family
I'm from Sunday family lunches and sweet tea.
From "Read your Bible" and "Do what it says."
I'm from Southern Baptist churches,
being at church every time the doors were open.
I'm from Walhalla, South Carolina.
Nana's cinnamon apples, and Granny's lasagna.
From the Sunday family dinners where Granny set off the smoke detectors
The tearful prayers of my Papa before each meal
The hope chest from my Nana
Full of photos and memories of a blessed life.*