

## Uncle Ray

### Cherry Poppin' Daddies

Uncle Ray is gone, a relative they couldn't find  
Finally free of his insanity, they covered him with lime  
In a ditch outside the old junkyard on 17  
Well that crazy drunk I swear he was a gentleman to me  
So take him far far away  
Take him far far away  
Out past all discussions, far from what they said  
Take him far far away  
Take him far far away  
'Cuz we're sort of related  
Here lies Uncle Ray

Dry rough skin, his hands, a working man, like bark from trees  
He'd come to the back door of my family's house  
For coffee and something to eat  
Pushed a shopping cart all filled with junk and empty cans  
He came home from the war to find his wife  
Now loved another man

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In this photograph we're hand in hand in deep white snow  
Ray was 65 and nearly blind, and I was 4 or so  
All the neighbors used to laugh and throw snowballs at him  
Now I live alone and when it snows  
I try not to think of them

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