

# The Carroll County Accident

Dolly Parton

Carroll County's pointed out as kind of square  
The biggest thing that happens is the county fair  
And I guess that's why it seemed like such a big event  
What we all call the Carroll County accident  
The wreck was on the highway just inside the line  
Walter Browning lost his life and for a time  
It seemed that Mary Ellen Jones would surely die  
But she lived long enough for her to testify

Now Walter Browning was a happy married man  
And he wore a golden wedding ring upon his hand  
But it was gone nobody knew just where it went  
He'd lost it in the Carroll County accident

Mary Ellen testified he flagged her down  
Said he was sick and could she drive him into town  
And no one even doubted what she said was true  
Cause she was well respected in the county too

Now I went down to see the wreck like all the rest  
The bloody seats, the broken glass, the tangled mess  
But I found something no one else had even seen  
Behind the dash in Mary's crumpled up machine

A little matchbox circled by a rubberband  
And inside the ring from Walter Browning's hand  
And it took a while to figure out just what it meant  
The truth about the Carroll County accident

By dark of night I dropped the ring into a well  
And I took a sacred oath that I would never tell  
The secret of the Carroll County accident  
Cause the county ordered dad a marble monument

I lost him in the Carroll County accident