

## **Flo and I** *(For the funeral of a friend of 35 years)*

We disagreed about everything:  
Politics, religion, economics, the social order...

Well, I guess not everything.  
We disagreed on everything but humor.  
Sharing an offbeat sense of it, we egged each other on,  
Often making a lunch an hour of sit-down comedy.

Actually, we disagreed on everything but humor and integrity.  
She wanted to be perfectly honest and give her best,  
And had only anger for others' hypocrisy, slacking, or deception.  
I couldn't disagree with that (but couldn't match her either).

So she'd want me to say we disagreed on everything but Humor,  
integrity, and truth.

Whatever the subject, she wanted to find it,  
And though she didn't always believe me, so did I.  
She also respected the rules of logic  
And would even admit it if I made a good point.

Come to think of it, we disagreed on everything but  
Humor, integrity, truth, and beauty.  
She had great taste in art, décor, dress...  
I agreed with her choices and loved visiting her homes.

We disagreed on everything else, but  
It was great to be her friend and colleague.  
The work was a pleasure and productive  
The arguments were stimulating, earnest, and fun,  
And she never held my positions against me.  
Well...not often. Well...not that I knew of.

Wait, we agreed on another one. Love.  
I never had a sister, but I think it would have been like knowing Flo.  
I loved her, and I think she loved me.

*Robert D. Smith  
For Florence Giske  
co-worker in our company  
and wife of my business partner*