

Mighty Joe Rollino Died Today

Words and Music: Graeme Connors

The mighty Joe Rollino died today
once the world's strongest man
run down by a mini van
just this side of his hundred and fifth birthday
a life reduced to ninety lines
on page fourteen of the New York Times

The mighty Joe Rollino died today
the path he chose at ten years old
a Coney Island Strongman show
came to an end at Bay Ridge Parkway
on his routine five mile walk
when most his age can barely talk

he trained his body and his mind
holding back the hands of time
and I figure he would say he had a win
'cause it was only chance that got Joe in the end

The mighty Joe Rollino died today
leaving his amazing feats
coins he bent between his teeth
winter swimming out in Lower Bay
no meat no cigarettes no booze
three purple hearts from World War Two

he trained his body and his mind
holding back the hands of time
and I figure in his way he had a win
'cause it was chance not time that got Joe in the end