

9/10/64

Pete Margolies  
25 Camp Rd.  
Amityville, NY

OF ANDY GOODMAN

Civil Rights Worker

Found Murdered in Mississippi,

August, 1964

From the moment he was born we all conspired &  
To murder him; in that sense he was cursed.  
The best of us, no better than the worst,  
Oiled the weapon that, later, others fired.  
Truly we taught him what he must believe,  
The while we weaned his killers on a brew  
So poisonous that we were tainted too:  
Conspirators -- yet privileged to grieve.

Half-armed, he stood our watch; now he is gone,  
A half-known child screaming a ~~half~~ half-heard plea  
That echoes still between the blood and bone:  
"Finish the task that you began with me!  
@--Or be content to spill a sweat of tears  
For someone else you'll kill in twenty years."