

Our first full year of marriage  
to be on our own ... a delight!  
Stone's house was warm enough,  
But nice "togetherness" on cold nights!

Mae walked home from campus  
That winter t'was cold ... not sunny,  
Then tummy pains and morning sickness,  
What was going on with "my honey"?

Old Dr. Casey confirmed it,  
It may not have been in our plans,  
We were to become parents,  
in October ... a baby ... and added demands.

Suggie and Poppie came a calling,  
Brought MomMae to check on Mae;  
And a little white baby crib...  
from Valdosta ... came all that way.

At factory work ... I "excelled",  
But had to finish school & graduate!  
Mae helped with my biology,  
and sewed maternity clothes ... looking great!

Our social life was fun,  
School friends liked to "get away",  
Came over from the dorm  
to see if married life was ... "the way".

We may have started a family early,  
But it was exciting none-the-less.  
Otter Creek ladies held a shower,  
And we knew we were blessed!

Jonathan Russell Rucker arrived in October,  
Little "Rusty"... came right on time!  
Mae's first labor was difficult,  
And our feelings ... hard to rhyme.

Proud! ... Blessed! But ... apprehensive,  
All of that ... you can be sure,  
We are happy now we started early,  
When we had the strength to "endure"!

We bundled up that boy in December,  
Took him to Valdosta to meet those folks,  
To Mae's sisters he was like a little doll,  
And the way he ate ...! That was no joke!

So we finished that year with a new baby,  
And our life did change a bit!  
We were not too sure how we would make it,  
God had plans ... He would make them fit!

