

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU  
(for Scottie Mandy)

Nobody loves a party more than I;  
An e-mail invitation's on my screen.  
I pause to think, while typing my reply,  
how birthdays come too soon and close between.

Times past I celebrated gleefully,  
but then, impatient, waited out the year  
till next a notice would be sent to me  
inviting once again to party here.

I'm pleased to share this special day with you,  
confiding that I never did pretend  
to know the truth of life, but now I do:  
The fun is not the party but the friend.

*by* Lee Netzler