His light still sings

in memoriam Chris Rutter

Too soon, too soon his flame was quenched,
Too soon his arc brought low,
From you tears torn, from him life wrenched
By senseless, random blow.

Mourn, mourn the passing of his star,
Mourn, yet do not despair;
His sphere of light still spreads afar,
His voice still beats the air
In song his dying cannot mar,
Only more widely share.

Reuben Thomas

Cambridge, 3rd March 2001; revised 6th March 2001