

*Michael Casey*

**the wake of Moore's son**

it happened the guy fell or tripped  
or dodged the wrong way  
but was not pushed  
off a subway platform  
and despite a horrible swelling  
above the hairline  
the knife wound was deemed  
the cause of death  
    the news in the office  
at the last minute  
said you can go  
but you have to sign for annual leave  
and so Oliver and I  
are the office representatives  
    I have to say  
we are not in the office hierarchy  
and that not a single boss shows  
    Ollie comes over to my desk  
and asks to borrow my shoe polish  
    he says, my father would be pissed  
I show up at a wake needing a shoeshine  
    I mention at this point,  
you want to borrow the extra tie in my desk  
    oh yeah for sure, he says  
    he adds, my father would roll over  
his casket he knew I'm at a Roxbury wake