Happy Birthday

To Alisha

I just turned 75, an odd year
when my banker takes me aside
and whispers, “I’ve just turned 60.”
“I’ve lost everyone, bar one uncle
and my girls,” she continues.
“75,” I respond, louder than she spoke.
On the day, one of my girls took
me to the California Academy of Science
where we wandered around the only
indoor rainforest and the Shake House with
the two earthquakes: 6.9 magnitude Loma Prieta
and the 7.9 Great San Francisco quake of 1906.

We saw everything, but my favorite thing was that
my girl, my 22-year-old daughter, held my hand
the whole day. I hadn’t felt that loved for years!

Melody Anderson-Brumidis

Melody is a Vallejo poet. Her wife of 40 years Loretta is her rock. Melody is active in the Solano poetry world. Her family—5 kids, 4 grandchildren, 5 chihuahuas, and a calico cat—provide material for her poetry. She enjoys gardening, walking her dogs, and reading Donna Leon mysteries.