

The Man Who Picked The Wildwood Flower  
 Recorded by Merle Haggard  
 Written by Tommy Collins

C G7 C  
 I only saw five people when they buried Jack Dupree  
 G7 C  
 Two diggers and the preacher the funeral man and me  
 F C  
 The prayer was said and the hole was filled in less than half an hour  
 G7 C  
 And I said goodbye to the little man who picked the Wildwood Flower

G7 C  
 For twenty years I'd seen him on the lower Nashville streets  
 G7 C  
 They said he always earned enough to buy his clothes and eats  
 F C  
 He'd stop awhile and check his watch with the big clock on the tower  
 G7 C  
 That's when I asked him once if he could pick the Wildwood Flower

G7 C  
 He always drew a crowd because he put on such a show  
 G7 C  
 He'd dance and sing and play and smile just like a polished pro  
 F C  
 And every time he saw me standing in the crowd  
 G7 C  
 I knew the tune that he'd play next would be the Wildwood Flower

G7 C  
 I told him once that he could be what people call a star  
 G7 C  
 And he said why boy I'm happy how many of them folks are  
 F C  
 I'd hate to have to force a smile and feel myself turn sour  
 G7 C  
 There ain't no put on in my face when I pick the Wildwood Flower

G7 C  
 Then I saw a thousand people as they begin to come  
 G7 C  
 Business men and Opry stars party girls and bums  
 F C  
 And on that little mound of clay bouquets begin to shower  
 G7 C  
 As they paid respect to the little man who picked the Wildwood Flower