

November 17, 1971

A man, once a boy I knew

Died today -- very young

Of "natural causes"

I saw him recently

The first time in years

And he was old

We came up together

In space and time

We grew far apart

Cardiac arrest its called

In fact, futility and despair

Existence ended

Life was driven out

Deliberately and maliciously

Years before death

The body exists

Withers and eventually

Dies

With bodily death comes

The end of living decay

Peace

I was not sad, sorry

Sorry that it had to be

Glad that it ended early.