

Joseph Mikolaycik

JUNIOR - 1st Place

Alumni Poetry Contest - 2016

JR - 13

DAD

Did I ever make you proud?

Were my actions too absurd?

Was I always just too loud?

Or did I never say a word.

I sit here every day.

I cannot figure why.

Why you chose to leave us.

I always want to cry.

But the tears won't come out.

The feelings stay inside.

I'm always filled with doubt,

No sense of self pride.

Why would you do this?

What did mom ever do?

You dad, I do not miss.

You never even came through.

How many games can one person miss?

How many concerts can you be busy for?

A simple conversation after school.

A walk around the block.

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A day with just the two of us.
Could it have been so hard?

But I now I know what I must do.
I know how to be a better man.
A better man than you.