

# Gone Too Soon

by Jacob Danek

What I would give, for one more walk  
For one more walk, with you my friend.  
Just one more walk, around the lake  
Around the bend, with you my friend.

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When I was a child, we ran in the woods  
Amongst the sturdy trees and twisted trails.  
Your quick paws setting a perfect, prancing pace.  
Not a worry in the world, we ran in the woods.

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I would watch out the window, as you chased rabbits and birds  
Wondering what it would be like to live life as an innocent dog.  
Running in circles in the green grass, over and over again.  
How beautiful and simple this was to me, a life lived free.

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Greeting me at the door, tail wagging with joy  
I did not notice the grey around your ears.  
As I grew taller, limbs stretching out every year  
Yours grew weak, creaking like the old weathered swing.

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But I was young and naive, and did not understand  
That your life was fading much more quickly than my own.  
Your once perfect pace, was now broken and flawed  
Yet you pranced on, not showing your spreading pain.

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On the last day I looked into your clouded eyes,  
And saw the same spark I did many years ago.  
A spark that made me choose you from the many,  
And bring you home to be my loyal best friend.

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What a friend you were, to me and my family  
Giving us a decade of unconditional love.  
Love untarnished by petty human folly,  
Love that gave comfort in times of need.

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So when you needed us to cease the pain  
We made the call, tears in our heavy eyes.  
But this was not a time to be selfish,  
And with heavy hearts we said goodbye.

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An impossible wish, I know, I know  
But I will cherish those runs in the woods.  
And hold on to those memories with a strong grip  
Because you were my best friend, who left too soon.

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