

Michael Charles Maibach



"The Past"

With all I have,
At such great cost,
Why do I miss
The past I've lost?

My good parents
For all they did.
And my two sisters -
From me they hid!

My first best friend,
So long ago -
Where is he now?
Why don't I know?

My first bike ride -
Friends guided me.
Then let me go -
I hit a tree!

As altar boy
The chants I learned.
While lighting candles -
I once was burned!

At night I'd scan
The family globe,
And dream of lands
I'd one day probe.

My parents' friends
Would come and play,
Their games of cards,
And laugh away!

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My sisters' friends
Would visit us,
On them I had
A young boys' crush.

The nuns in school
Did all one can,
But I truly sought
An attentive man.

High school was fun
With friends so rife,
The Christian brothers
Did save my life.

My first true love,
Now gone away -
I loved her smile,
The words she'd say.

The way it felt
When we first kissed,
So awkward then -
And now so missed.

Off to college
And on my own -
Most all I learned,
I learned alone.

When college ended
Careers arrived,
Full of challenge
And I survived!

Full of people,
Teams and goals,
We did our best
To fill our roles.

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As careers ended
Doors opened new,
So must to see -
Much more to do.

My good friends
Have done me proud,
Professional colleagues -
One talented crowd.

For all I'm thankful,
For all this past -
I truly saw
My dreams surpassed.

And when I survey
This rich, rich gift -
When poor of spirit
It gives me lift.

And when I miss
What came to pass -
I pray God gives
Me back my past.

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