

Gone in a Heartbeat

Shruti Tarigoppula, (14 years)

You were gone in a heartbeat...
Tossing and turning on sleepless nights,
The consequences of your parting are terrifying sights
Though I know that you have gone somewhere
I see you everywhere
You are here, you are there, and you are everywhere,
Walking, talking, and smiling from nowhere.

You were gone in a heartbeat,
As painful as it is to you, as it is to me,
Ever so affectionate and kind
The trail of smiles you left behind,
Are the gifts that we must see,
Through my tears of grief
I recollect the hours and hours of your brief

You were gone in a heartbeat,
You were there a second ago,
Very close to my heart, and smiling so,
But... the second has passed...
A fleeting second
Changing compassionate smiles into grieving hearts.

You were gone in a heartbeat
But you are still there for me,
However frivolous they might be
Listening to my problems, I can see
Smiling and nodding in encouragement
Shaking your head in disagreement
When you sense my direction is wrong,

You were gone in a heartbeat,
Gone in a heartbeat,
You did not give me time to say good-bye
Although in a way it is bye,
Its not bye for good.
Tata, you will always be there for me if you could
in soul and spirit, if not as a person should.

Gone in a heartbeat.

Dedicated to my Grandfather, Mr. Srinivasa Rao Tarigoppula