

MY DOG DIED TODAY

By Richard Schalhamer

**I am only six years old
And what does not seem right
My dog died at only seven
I've known him all my life**

**He watched me in the cradle
He barked whenever I laughed
He was nice to help my mother
Pulling diapers from the trash**

**We played together in the rain
We stomped through many a puddle
When we came home dripping wet
We got in lots of trouble**

**We dug together with shovel and paw
He'd tear up the dirt, I would haul
When the lawn was dug, it ended soon
Him in his doghouse, me in my room**

**I brushed his hair and scratched his nose
He kept me warm and licked my toes
Under the table where he could not be seen
He helped me finish my green string beans**

**Many say he was "just a dog"
To life there was no order
With all the dogs in the world
I can always get another**

**He made me laugh, he made me play
With one lick, he'd send my blues away
So "just a dog" he cannot be
He was a part of life, as much as me**

**So, to my dog I say farewell
There's one last thing I need to tell
Since he died so soon at only seven
I really hope, there's a doggy heaven**