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## Uncle Bud

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## Uncle Bud

I never really knew you well

I knew your round face,  
your boyish grin.  
How you always went outside  
to smoke  
at family parties,  
And sent me a two dollar bill  
for every birthday.

I knew you loved  
the Cubs,  
Herbie the cat,  
the meager garden in your backyard,  
and giving us candy when we came over  
for Halloween.

I knew it was you  
Mom was talking on the phone about  
the night you died.  
So unexpectedly and peacefully  
you left.  
Left me with a dull ache in my stomach,  
Regret that

I never really knew you well.

*Karyn DeSchaaf*