

# **The Delay Only Made It Hit Harder**

**By: A.X. Bueno**

There were times I didn't think I'd make it you this year  
For all the obstacles and hardships life has thrown though I still made it here  
Arriving here is very much bittersweet  
Passing through that unlocked and open gate to the whole purpose of this...retreat  
Your grave, a sight that in person I now am able to behold  
The sight and reminder that you're gone that I'll have to visit more than once  
It makes all the emotions hit so much harder, at least tenfold  
This was something I never could have prepared for on just about all fronts  
I expected you to pull through as strong as you were but in the end I felt like a shocked dunce  
That feeling eventually faded as I came to the circumstances such as they were  
I thought I came to adapt to and accept your passing but now the emotions recur  
I stare now at this house to your remains and others in your generation of our family and mourn  
I'm standing by with my generation of family and feel like my hearts been twice torn  
I go to comfort our kin and it all finally breaks through  
Somewhat expectedly though not at the precise moment I start crying  
Turns out I'm still capable of tears after all and pretty much all of them are for you  
I hope you know how much you meant to me even though I struggled to put it words  
I learned more now how much I meant to you and I'd break down again because of all that's  
happened and that I've heard  
This trip has provided a relief, a comfort and a closure more than I thought I'd know  
I will move forward to make you and others including myself proud but your memory...  
Your memory and the memories you helped me to have and experience are things I'll never let  
go  
I attended your service and visited so my grief can fade and eventually not stay  
I visited your grave to come to terms with what happened last year, to let the pain out and  
hopefully away