

## High Valley

### "A Father's Love / The Only Way He Knew How"

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For the longest time he was the kind I just didn't  
understand  
Hard to read, hard to please, yeah that was my old  
man  
On the day I left I for college it was nothing new  
We never had that heart to heart, he had too much to  
do

He checked the air in my tires, the belts and all the  
sparkplug wires  
Said when was the last time you had this oil changed  
And as I pulled out the drive he said, "be sure and call  
your mom sometime"  
I didn't hear it then but I hear it now  
He was saying "I love you," the only way he knew how

A hundred twenty thousand miles and 6 years down  
the road  
Brand new life brand new wife we just bought our first  
home  
When he finally came to visit I thought he'd be so proud  
He never said he liked the place he just got his tool belt  
out

And put new locks on the doors, went back and forth to  
the hardware store  
Said come and hold this flashlight as he crawled  
beneath the sink  
These old wires aren't up to code and that circuit box is  
gonna overload  
And I didn't hear it then but I hear it now  
He was saying I love you the only way he knew how

Last Sunday we all gathered for his 65th birthday  
And I knew he'd stiffen up but I hugged him anyway  
When was finally time to say goodbye I knew what was  
next  
Just like he always did right before he left

He checked the air in my tires, the belts and all the  
sparkplug wires

Said when was the last time you had this oil changed  
And as I pulled out the drive he said, "be sure to call  
your mom sometime"  
And I wish I knew back then what I know now  
He was saying "I love you," the only way he knew how

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