## The Explosion

## "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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