

Dear Xia

Dear Xia,

Everytime I see the bright colors

Of a tie dye shirt

I think of you and how,

Even with the gravity of your ailment,

You never stopped smiling.

How that tie dye sweatshirt you always wore

Was a testament of your love

For art, for happiness

For the struggle you were facing

And how you were fighting to

Overcome it.

Oh Xia,

Everytime I see the bright colors

Of a tie dye shirt,

I regret that I did not give you more time

I did not spend more time with you

I did not think of you some days.

I called you my friend

But looking back

Somedays it did not seem

As though I was your friend.

And Xia,

When I saw you those few months

Of my senior year, your sophomore year

And I saw how worse your struggle had become

I prayed to God to stop your suffering.

And He did, Xia

But not in the way I wanted.

They say that you are not

Suffering anymore

That you're in a better place

That this cancer can't take

Away your smile anymore.

But I can't help but feel,

And hope and wish and pray,

That I could see that smile again

That I could've seen it again

And that beautiful tie dye sweatshirt

Before you left forever.