

## obituary 12-11-11

he was a horse of a different color  
he was an army of one  
he was a stone on a river bottom  
he was a bird that fell out of the nest.

he was an A student  
he was the smartest guy in the class  
he was a tax deduction  
he was a paycheck.

he was a castaway  
    a fugitive  
    a superhero  
    a cowboy  
    a jet pilot  
    a soldier  
    a time traveler  
    a family of astronauts  
    a secret identity.

he was an alien from another planet  
    who fell to earth.

he felt confused a lot  
he felt like he didn't belong  
he felt like something was missing  
he couldn't wait to grow up  
    even after he grew up.

he fell in love with women  
    who didn't love him back  
he fell in love with women  
    who lied to him  
he fell in love with women  
    who cheated on him  
he fell in love with women  
    who didn't appreciate him  
he fell in love with women  
    who couldn't see him  
    or let him be who he was.

he lived for 15 years without loving anyone at all  
    *(he never saw that one coming)*  
he kept trying  
he got tired of trying  
    and sometimes he stopped trying  
but he never stopped looking.

he wanted to help  
he wanted to make a difference  
he wanted everything to be better  
    for everybody  
he couldn't understand why people lied  
    so much and so often  
    when it took so little effort  
    to tell the truth  
he couldn't understand why people were  
    so mean to one another  
    when it took so little effort  
    to be kind.

he was a prisoner  
he was a punching bag  
he was a scapegoat  
he was an exile.

he was a flower in a jar  
    a damaged romance  
    a beast in the night  
    a cave full of bats.

he put it all on the line  
he gave everything he had  
    to everything he did  
he lived at the edges of his edges  
he fell many times  
    and was broken many times  
    in many ways  
but he always got back up.

he was a sand castle in a tsunami  
    a beam of moonlight landing on a blade of grass  
    an erupting volcano  
    a still mountain stream  
    a quiet moment that passed  
in the twilight.

now the wave that brought him here  
    has taken him back  
he was ahead of his time  
he was ahead of the pack  
he was never sure he mattered at all  
    but he did.