

Wasn't This Us?

A little house with three bedrooms,
One bathroom and one car on the street.
A mower that you had to push
To make the grass look neat.

We only had one phone,
And no need for recording things,
Someone was always home.

We only had a living room
Where we would congregate,
Unless it was at mealtime
In the kitchen where we ate.

We had no need for family rooms
Or extra rooms to dine.
When meeting as a family
Those two rooms would work out fine.

We only had one TV set
And channels maybe two,
But always there was one of them
With something worth the view.

For snacks we had potato chips
That tasted like a chip.
And if you wanted flavor
There was Lipton's onion dip.

Store-bought snacks were rare
'Cause mother liked to cook.
And nothing can compare to snacks
In Betty Crocker's book.

Weekends were for family trips
Or staying home to play.
We all did things together --
Even go to church to pray.

When we did our weekend trips
Depending on the weather,
No one stayed at home because
We liked to be together.

And shopping casually,
And when you went to pay for it
You used your own money?

Nothing that you had to swipe
And remember when the cashier person
Had to really count?

The milkman used to go
Go from door to door
For just a few cents more
Than going to the store.

There was a time when mailed letters
Came right to your door
Without a lot of junk mail ads
Sent out by every store.

The mailman knew each house by name
And knew where it was sent.
There were not loads of mail addressed
To "present occupant."

There was a time when just one glance
Was all that it would take,
And you would know the kind of car,
The model and the make.

They didn't look like turtles
Trying to squeeze out every mile;
They were streamlined, white walls, fins
And really had some style.

One time the music that you played
Whenever you would jive
Was from a vinyl, big-holed record
Called a forty-five.

The record player had a post
To keep them all in line
And then the records would drop down
And play one at a time.

Oh sure, we had our problems then,

Sometimes we would separate
To do things on our own,
But we knew where the others were
Without our own cell phone.

Then there were the movies
With your favorite movie star,
And nothing can compare
To watching movies in your car.

Then there were the picnics
At the peak of summer season,
Pack a lunch and find some trees
And never need a reason.

Get a baseball game together
With all the friends you know.
Have real action playing ball,
And no game video.

The way that he took care of you
Or what he had to do,
Because he took an oath and strived
To do the best for you.

Just like we do today,
And always we were striving,
Trying for a better way.

Oh, the simple life we lived
Still seems like so much fun,
How can you explain a game,
Just kick the can and run?

And why would boys put baseball cards
Between bicycle spokes?
And for a nickel, red machines
Had little bottled Cokes?

This life seemed so much easier
And slower in some ways.
I love the new technology
But I sure do miss those days.

So time moves on and so do we
And nothing stays the same.
But I sure love to reminisce
And walk down memory lane.