

Only You Dad

Original Words

[Intro]

[bright acoustic guitar strumming, clean electric guitar lead melody]

[Verse 1]

[acoustic guitar, bass, and light percussion]

He was young in sixty-nine
With a ring and a plan
Four little voices
Reaching up for his hands
Working days, chasing nights
Trying hard to provide
Taking swings at every dream he kept inside
Salesman shoes on a worn-out floor
Knocking on hope through one more door
Some things worked, most fell apart
But he never learned to guard his heart

[Chorus]

[full band enters, driving drums, electric guitar power chords]

Years rolled on and the road got long
Love got tested, some went wrong
Built a life and watched it change
Turned the page, didn't curse the pain
There were roads that didn't go as planned
And a past that came back to his hands

But he stood there, took it in
And never ran from where he'd been
Somewhere in those trying years
Through the doubt and through the fears
You built a life out of broken stars
Turned long roads into open hearts
You didn't quit when it fell apart
You just kept going
From nothing showed us something real
From empty hands to a turning wheel
Eighty years and you still feel like you ain't done yet
Only you, Dad

[Guitar Solo]

[melodic electric guitar solo with bluesy bends and slides]

[Verse 2]

[drums drop to a steady beat, acoustic guitar rhythm]

Nineteen eighty-seven
Something finally stayed
Built it from nothing
Made your own way
From the ground up, brick by brick
All those misses made this stick
Then came miles and a different view
New roads, new love, a life and two more names
More dreams, more faces
A growing tree with deeper places
I'll be rolling down a nowhere road
Map half wrong but you didn't slow
Boating in Florida, sunburned grin

Laughing loud with the wind blowing in
Water skiing in a tuxedo black
Who even thinks of stuff like that?
Jumped from a plane just last year
We all just shook our heads and cheered
Only you, Dad

[Bridge]

[music softens, piano and light strings enter]

Then the world got quiet, heavy and slow
Six long years you didn't let go
Held her close through the hardest days
Loved her strong all the way
And when she left you stood your ground
Didn't let the silence take you down
Some men close up when it all goes dark
You lit another match in your heart
Even then, through loss and pain
Only you, Dad, loved that way

[Chorus]

[full band returns, high energy]

You built a life out of second chances
Through every loss she kept on dancing
You never let the music end
You just kept going
Through every love, through every scar
You showed us all just who you are
Eighty years and here you are, still wide open
Only you, Dad
Only you, Dad

Could live a life like that

[Outro]

[acoustic guitar and electric guitar lead]

From soda shops to city lights

From long goodbyes to brand new nights

If there's one thing we understand

There's only one you, Dad

[final acoustic guitar strum]