

**They Used To Play Baseball Here** (Matt Watroba) © 2010

I drive on through the broken gate  
Past the booth now still and dark  
Where once the cars were bathed in light  
Spilling over from the park  
I'd flip my keys to Jim or Steve  
Find my seat and have a beer  
But this old house is coming down  
They used to play baseball here.  
The stadium has moved downtown  
Leaving nothing on this street.  
They traded in a neighborhood  
For a corporate box or suite.  
I know it's good for business  
That point has been made clear  
But this old house is coming down  
They used to play baseball here.

On game days we'd stand outside  
In a line curled 'round the block  
But Gracie's eggs were worth the wait  
And I loved the baseball talk  
I marveled how the morning hours  
Would somehow disappear  
Now Gracie's place is coming down  
They used to serve breakfast here  
The new joint's out at exit five  
You don't have to stand in line  
They traded conversation  
For a convenient place to dine  
They say it's good for business  
That point has been made clear  
But this old house is coming down  
They used to play baseball here

I know we're moving forward  
And I guess we probably should  
But there's a cost for what we've lost  
When things are gone for good

The barber shop near Gracie's  
Was a gathering for guys  
Between innings on the radio  
They spent hours spinning lies  
A ring of smoke, a dirty joke

For over forty years  
Now Saturday's are not the same  
They used to give hair cuts here  
The new salons stretch on and on  
Walt's place was cramped and small  
They traded in a gathering place  
For a cheap cut at the mall  
I hear it's good for business  
That point has been made clear  
Now Saturdays are not the same  
They used to play baseball here

This old house is coming down  
They used to play baseball here.