A Philosophy of Life
IN MEMORY OF NEIL

IN HEAVEN GOD saw a vision
A life to be sent to Earth.
Said He, "I'll choose some parents
Who will realize its worth.

They'll love him and they'll teach him,
Each day to do my will,
They'll follow all my beckonings,
And lead him up the hill.

Past trials and temptations,
Through joys and sorrows too,
My word will give them courage,
To do what they must do.

And so God sent this little boy,
To parents good and true,
They loved him and they taught him,
His master's will to do.

In a few short years this chosen lad,
Had grown to be a man,
Said they, "He's everything we've wished,
We've done the best we can.

We thank God for this gift of love,
He placed within our care”.
But now alone he must obey
The voice from, way-up-there.

Love and marriage were granted him,
The dearest God could enfold,
More joy was crowded in this one life,
Than some lives ever hold.

Then God's hand led him onward,
Across the ocean far,
Into the battle for a better world,
This lad was still God's Star.

Leading men on to see the light,
When sadness dimmed the sun,
Until the Father whispered low,
"Well done, my child, well done."

God called home his own once more,
His mission on earth was done.
Out of his dying, a better world
For others may be won.

They who are left must carry on,
To do the master's will,
By believing, and praying, and following,
To reach the top of the hill.

Each life is a part of an infinite plan,
And be it short or long,
Life is God's to give and take,
To make this world move on.

Out of selfishness into selflessness,
By lives of valient worth,
He'll shape in eons and eons of time
His Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

—Francis Bragg.