

The Navy Hymn
Eternal Father, Strong To Save

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bid'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee,
for those in peril on the sea.

Lord, stand beside the men who build
And give them courage, strength, and skill.
O grant them peace of heart and mind,
And comfort loved ones left behind.
Lord, hear our prayer for all Seabees,
Where'er they be on land or sea.

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee,
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

The song known to United States Navy men and women as the "Navy Hymn," is a musical benediction that long has had a special appeal to seafaring men, particularly in the American Navy and the royal navies of the British Commonwealth and which, in more recent years, has become a part of French naval tradition.

The original words were written as a hymn by a schoolmaster and clergyman of the Church of England, the Reverend William Whiting. Reverend Whiting (1825–1878) resided on the English coast near the sea and had once survived a furious storm in the Mediterranean. His experiences inspired him to pen the ode, Eternal Father, Strong to Save. In the following year, 1861, the words were adapted to music by another English clergyman, the Reverend John B. Dykes (1823–1876)

*Well Done
thy Good and Faithful
Servant*



Alfred Miller Steadley, Jr.
February 20, 1935 - March 30, 2021

Word of Life International Church
5225 Backlick Road • Springfield VA 22151 • 703.941.2312

Memorial Celebration for the Life of *Alfred Miller Steadley, Jr.* Saturday, April 10, 2021

Musician/Worship

Rev. Bill Rappe
Associate Pastor, Word of Life

Welcome & Prayer

Dr. Robert Rhoden
Interim Lead Pastor, Word of Life

Scripture John 14:1-6, Psalm 23

Rev. Wolde Dagnachew
Associate Pastor, Word of Life

Congregational Song

It Is Well With my Soul

Family Reflections

Tributes

Rev. Phil Sierralta
Rev. Samary Resto
Jeannette Bellamy

Congregational Song

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Message Let Us Arise and Build Nehemiah 2:18

Rev. Dan Thompson
Associate Pastor, Word of Life

Congregational Song

Victory In Jesus

Benediction

Dr. Rhoden
Interim Lead Pastor, Word of Life

Remembered in Love

Alfred M. Steadley, Jr. was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on February 20th, 1935 to A. M.(Sr.) and Virginia Steadley. He graduated from Classen High School in 1953, and the University of Oklahoma in 1958 as an Ensign in the Naval Reserve with a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum Engineering.

He married his college sweetheart, Sarajane Bateman of Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Happily married for 61 years, Al and Sarajane raised two sons who blessed them with 7 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Al's naval career spanned 28-1/2 years. Beginning with a sea tour onboard the aircraft carrier USS Randolph (CVA-15), Al transitioned to the Civil Engineer Corps, earning a Bronze Star (with Combat "V") in Vietnam. Later, Al was deployed for one year as the Officer in Charge of Construction on Diego Garcia, an atoll in the Indian Ocean, where he and the Seabees built an airstrip. Al was a Seabee at heart. Although his career also included dealing with the Contracts and Public Works Divisions of the Civil Engineer Corps, when asked, he would refer the most to his Seabee accomplishments which include: Executive officer of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion [NMCB] 133, Commanding Officer of NMCB One, and Base Commander of Construction Battalion Center and the 20th Naval Construction Regiment, Gulfport, MS. He retired in 1987 with the rank of Captain. He was especially proud that the Chief Petty Officers made him an Honorary Chief Petty Officer. During his naval career, Al earned a Master Degree in Material Science.

After the Navy, Al pursued a civilian career in Engineering Management with Walk Haydel and Associates in New Orleans, LA. He also worked with FEMA, deploying on numerous occasions for disaster recovery throughout the United States.

Al's recreational passion was golf; a sport he enjoyed through the years. He often spoke of playing golf while stationed in the Philippines. In later years he was a member of the Retired Men's Golf Assoc. at Fort Belvoir. He and Sarajane would often play golf together at Pinecrest Golf Club in Annandale where he volunteered once a week, helping the grounds keeper. He also volunteered with feeding the homeless for many years at Word of Life. When tax season came around, Al would volunteer with the AARP Tax Aide program.

Al had a servant's heart. Perhaps his greatest gift, however, was to his family as he led by example, faithfully caring for them. Al passed quietly into the presence of his Savior and Lord Jesus Christ on March 30, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Sarajane; children Miller (Lissa) and Scott (Julie), and grandchildren, Ryan, Sean, Ethan, Sara, Katie, and Ben. He was preceded in earthly departure by his grandson, Andrew.

Seabees Can Do! We build, we fight!

Nehemiah 4:16-18--¹⁶From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor. The officers posted themselves behind all the people of Judah ¹⁷ who were building the wall. Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, ¹⁸ and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked. But the man who sounded the trumpet stayed with me.