

U.S.S. Arizona

Beneath green water she sleeps,
Her flag still proudly flapping in the harbor wind.
A thousand men rest with her
As they did on a fateful December day
When chaos reigned above them.

The impact of that blast signaled death
For so many men of all races.
For three years mothers grieved until the skies cleared
And the sun looked down at a new world.

An eerie silence prevails
Punctuated by occasional purring of light craft
As the Arizona stares back at the thousands
Who live on because of her sacrifice.

The harbor bustles where once defeat swarmed
Like bees and stung a nation's pride.
Her monument stands proudly as testimony to the thousands
Who died to keep us free.

Your loss was not in vain
The people you suffered to save
Whisper in hushed reverence above your grave.
Those who served and those yet born before your demise
Feel the pain of a war that shaped their destiny.

Frank Allocco
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii