
Day of Tears

(December 16, 1970)

for Flute Choir

by Stephen Hill (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

Flute 1
Flute 2
Flute 3
Flute 4
Alto Flute
Bass Flute

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About the Work....

In the early morning hours of December 16, 1970, I awakened with the words, "... your father is gone." On that morning, after a year-long battle with cancer, my father passed away in his own bed, in the room across the hall from my own. I was 12. A strong husband, father of 7 kids and, a World War II Army Air Corp Veteran of the European Theater. A small businessman and a sincere and humble Christian.

This work is a slow and mournful one. The long sustained lines and the soft dynamics in the upper ranges of the flutes reflect the long and painful progression of my father's declining health.

Day of Tears, written ten years after my father died, was composed for my Senior Composition Recital at Ouachita Baptist University. The piece was performed by the Ouachita Baptist University Flute Choir, under the direction of Mr. Ralph Rauch.

Website Audio - <https://www.stephenhillcomposer.com/>
SoundCloud - <https://soundcloud.com/sarahtim-music/day-of-tears-december-16-1970-1980-ouachita-baptist-university-flute-choir>

About the Composer...

Stephen Hill (b.1958) was born and raised in Southern California. He studied at Cerritos College (1976-77) with composer Philip Westin, who was a student of Roy Harris and Ingolf Dahl. He also studied at Ouachita Baptist University (1978-80), in Arkadelphia, Arkansas with composer W. Francis McBeth, who was a student of Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, and Howard Hanson. He did his graduate work at California State University, Los Angeles (1980-84) where he studied with composers Byong Kon Kim, and William Hill.

Stephen Hill composes for the simple joy of it. He writes for Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Chorus, Piano, and Solo Instrumental works. He self-publishes his music through SARAHTIM Music Publishing, named for his daughter Sarah and his son Tim.

He taught the Band and Orchestra classes for over 37 years. The last 25 years were with the K-8th Band and Orchestra classes at the Maybrook Campus of Whittier Christian Schools. He currently teaches privately and directs the Orchestra at California High School in Whittier, Ca.

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"Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:7-8 NIV)

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

B. Fl.

p

mp

ppp

19

20

21

22

23