

NEVER!

Never cast hope to the wind,
Freezing you frigid in storm.
Call upon Heaven to send
Breezes to blow your heart warm.

Never beg darkness for death!
You'll be drawn deeper in night.
Pray, though it seems your last breath,
“Dawn on me, Lord, with Your light!”

Never stay down in the dumps.
Sadness descends to a pit.
Climb, if your attitude slumps.
Stand, when your feelings say, “Sit!”

Never let hurts tie the knot:
Bitterness makes a cruel mate!
Pardon can cleanse the worst blot,
Ending a marriage with hate.

Never be quick to assume:
Ghosts can dance circles in air!
Verify facts you consume.
Speak only fully aware.

Never march off with a throng,
Losing your soul in its sway.
Find your voice! Sing your own song!
Uniquely dance your ballet!

Never say die, till you're dead!
Don't throw the towel in so fast!
Though your life hangs by a thread,
Live it with grace to the last!

— *David L. Hatton, 4/16/2019*