

## OUR BIG FIVE-0

By grace we've come to fifty years  
of walking side by side  
with wedding bands still on our hands,  
approaching eventide—

A hundred years, when added up,  
of learning how to be  
a dual team that seeks the dream  
of married ecstasy.

While we have loved beneath one roof,  
five decades have combined—  
a century of loyalty,  
with souls still intertwined.

We welcomed union's fruitful flow  
in through our humble door,  
and though we deemed enough had streamed,  
God showered us with more.

While fretting on our flaws and faults,  
we wondered why the Lord  
kept blessing so with babes to grow,  
till twelve had come aboard.

But Jesus piloted us with care  
to steer our bulging boat  
through stormy din, through thick and thin,  
and kept our home afloat.

Our story and adventure store  
could fill two books or three  
to celebrate our path to date—  
this anniversary.

We're still not finished journeying  
with Jesus, heart to heart,  
and we will kiss in Heaven's bliss  
if death tears us apart.

But while we traipse this twilight time,  
I pledge my vow anew:  
and would repeat it all, my sweet,  
to spend my life with you.

— *David L. Hatton, 8/19/2021*