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## POEMS by Robert Fischer

**Why**      2003

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When duty called I took the dare,  
for I had not learned fear.  
A Carrier ship would be my home,  
for most of the next few years.

Eighty days around Okinawa Isle,  
we flew cover at the dawn.  
But the day we left the fray,  
our replacement ship was gone.

Are there words that we can say  
for all the men that die?  
We were told to carry on,  
I ask "LORD GOD WHY"?

Months later in Japanese tradition,  
Kamikaze planes in the air.  
We were a prize for one of them,  
but for a Navy Corsair.

Could he change the hands of faith,  
Who was this brave unknown guy?  
He shot the plane short of our deck,  
And again I asked "GOD WHY"?

May, Nineteen hundred forty five  
In route to Karama Retto Isle.  
Just 360 miles from mainland Japan,  
Nickname "Kamikaze corner" Jap style.

We had been there twice before ,  
remembering the Kamikaze threat.  
Could we do it once again?  
No one was willing to bet.

Then a call “ RETURN TO FLEET”  
came from God knows where.  
Sangamon would take our place  
Why, we did not care.

Late that night we got the news,  
a Japanese plane got through  
hit the munitions on her deck,  
Sangamon ship just blew.

Many brave men were wounded,  
many men would die,  
All of us on Chenango,  
stood there and asked GOD WHY?

Ten years later, after the war,  
a fishing trip went sour.  
To change the events of that day ,  
I wished with all my power.

Many people said I was lucky,  
some thought that I would die.  
Someone intervened again,  
And still I ask GOD WHY?

When I was over seventy years,  
an aneurysm burst out,  
Many miracles came that day,  
some they still talk about.

It was the battle of my life,  
Five weeks they all would try.  
When I emerged from where I was,  
everyone was asking “WHY”?

I do believe in miracles,  
God’s plan I also buy.  
Some things may never be revealed,  
so we just ponder “Why”.

