

Seven Storey Redux

By James E. Quinn

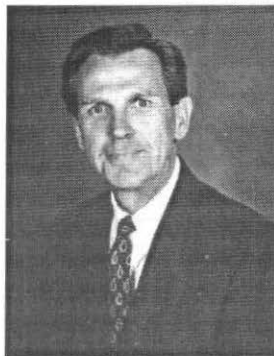
When the big bell rings at Gethsemani
and the last light leaves the Kentucky sky,
the day passes and the night spills slowly
over the silent monastic hills.

At 10 – he shot pool at Duggan’s saloon. His
New Zealand father knew the value
of a long ball in a side pocket,
the value of hard work
and good play.

Time and life brought him the
Eiffel Tower, the Place de la Condamine,
the whirl of city lights and noise
and long ghostly smiles
of satan.

At 26 – someplace with Reg Marsh
near Coney Island,
after Columbia University
somewhere in the soul’s solitude,
his vows were made
to serve the Almighty,
forever;
a love stronger than life,
a love bound tighter,
straighter than the sky.

This God-made servant,
what he was then, is here, now
everywhere a part of the sunlight and night,
a part of you and me,
a far-reaching star in the Kentucky sky.



James E. Quinn

James E. Quinn, born and raised in the mid-west, is a writer, teacher, consultant and retired Professor Emeritus at the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry. In addition to more than two dozen professional articles, he has published literary work in *Walt Whitman Review*, *Sou' Wester*, *English Journal* and *Research Development Magazine*. He and his wife have two children and reside in Oklahoma City.