For Those Who Remain

For those who remain on this long storied journey which has covered so many years, Every year there are more not with us, for whom we have shed many tears.

We remember them and speak of them often, as they have taken their place in glory.

Of those who remain, we feel lucky and blessed, in how we have written our story.

As we float down the river of life, we all prefer calm waters, while knowing challenges with rapids appear. We hope our rudder stands firm to steer us away from any fear.

But today, let us welcome all classes who want to celebrate and reminisce.

Many who we have already hugged, and some we have even kissed.

It's amazing the time that has passed, but all our roads have led us here.

So raise a glass of whatever you're drinking, some wine or maybe a beer.

A toast to our good fortune that we are here, gleefully gathering together.

Happy it's not in August, seems October has much cooler weather.

All in all, this should be a wonderful day, with memories all abound. Wishes to all for good health and prayers that next time were still around.

> Jerry W. Franklin 10/07/22