My days among the dead are past

My days among the dead are past; Around me I behold, Where'er these casual eyes are cast, The mighty minds of old; My never-failing friends are they, With whom I converse day by day.

With them I take delight in weal, And seek relief in woe;
And while I understand and feel - How much to them I owe,
My cheeks have often bedewed - With tears of thoughtful gratitude.

My thoughts are with the dead, with them - I live in long-past years, Their virtues love, their faults condemn, Partake their hopes and fears,

And from their lessons seek and find - Instruction with a humble mind.

My hopes are with the dead, anon - My place with them will be, And I with them shall travel on - Through all futurity; Yet leaving here a name, I trust, That will not perish in the dust.

> -Robert Southey 1774-1843

1/// 10/3

For the families and friends of the Army National Guard crash victims.