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*If Veterans don't help Veterans, who will?*

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**Taking Stock**     05/14/16

Well,  
Here we are,  
A shuffling, trundling bundle  
Of colliding contradictions,  
Not quite baked  
Through, but  
A bit more  
Than half  
At three score  
Plus ten and an unknown  
Number of months'  
Commutation of sentence.

~

Of my mistakes  
And half stumbles  
Into the right  
Of merciful justice,  
Both agape and phileo,  
I widely wonder  
What wisdom learned  
There's been ingrained  
Worthy of passing  
To growing grandkids  
Entering a challenging,  
Changing world  
Beyond the imagining  
Of a sixties teen  
So very worried  
That he might not be  
normal.

-- Gerald Alan Ney