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# To A Young Life

for Solo Piano

by Stephen Hill (ASCAP)

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SARAHTIM Music Publishing



### ***About the Work...***

A reflective piece for solo piano composed nearly 35 years ago in memory of Lance Hardgrave (1969-1984), a young high school student from the church we both attended. Lance looked to me for mentoring and friendship. Lance liked to play baseball and go to the movies. In 1984, one of the last movies he asked me to see together with him before he and his family moved to Arkansas, was *The Karate Kid*.

With my limited piano skills, I wanted to write a piece that I could personally play. And yet, within that limited technical scope, compositionally still convey the sorrow and sadness of Lance's passing.

Website: <https://www.stephenhillcomposer.com>

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/sarahtim-music/to-a-young-life-for-lance-in-memori-am>

### ***About the Composer...***

Stephen Hill (b.1958), was born and raised in Southern California. He studied with Composer, Philip Westin (a student of Roy Harris and Ingolf Dahl) at Cerritos College (1976-77), and with Composer Dr. W. Francis McBeth (who was a student of Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, and Howard Hanson) at Ouachita Baptist University (1978-80), in Arkadelphia, Ark. He did his graduate work at California State University, Los Angeles (1980-84) under Composers Dr. Byong Kon Kim, and William Hill.

Stephen Hill composes for the simple joy of it. He writes for Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Chorus, Piano and Solo Instrumental works. He self-publishes his music through SARAHTIM Music Publishing, named for his daughter Sarah and his son Tim.

He taught Band and Orchestra for over 37 years. The last 25 years were spent teaching K-8th Band and Orchestra at the Maybrook Campus of Whittier Christian Schools. He currently teaches privately and directs the Orchestra at California High School in Whittier, Ca.

## **SARAHTIM Music Publishing**

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*“Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:7-8 NIV)*

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for Lance, In Memoriam

# To A Young Life

Stephen Hill

Mournful, Reflective, with Ebb and Flo

$\text{♩} = 78$

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece is in 4/4 time. The right hand starts with a whole rest, while the left hand plays a descending eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *pp* and *p*. A *Ped.* marking is present in the first measure.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The right hand begins with a half note in the treble clef. The left hand continues with eighth-note patterns.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The right hand features a series of half notes in the treble clef. The left hand maintains the eighth-note accompaniment.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The right hand continues with half notes in the treble clef. The left hand concludes the eighth-note accompaniment.

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