

EPILOGUE

Today's date is November 09, 2021. The intent of this compilation was to provide the readers (my family) with some idea how Elmer Verigin lived over 81 years of his life. What did he accomplish? How does he feel about that today?

I have been able to be part of and love a beautiful family and there is no doubt about that.

I have had many opportunities for success. That definition is a philosophical exercise and no one will agree on how to describe it in words. My success is in the people that I was able to meet and associate with. In most instances, it became what we did together to leave and be enjoyed by many who will follow us. Thank you all for being patient with me and my idiosyncrasies.

I leave memories but little financial wealth and that has been by choice if one reads my poem written when I was twenty (20). Did I set the tone right there and then?

FAITH

In the first chapter

Of meditating thoughts

Are revealed

Uncertainty, anxiety.....

Interwoven

With dreaded unconfidence

And polluted

With external pressures

Like

Faithlessness

The cue is chosen

The words ring

Loud and clear;

Faith

What means

*This word
Of Varied definition?
Faith of the divine Being?
Faith of destiny?
Or faith in oneself?
But one's self
Is faithless
When destiny
Plays cat and mouse
With heartless tigers
Where does one seek
This faith?
Does he grow confident?
Of physical endurance?
Of mental superiority
And the hope of reward
For his effort?
This is faith in one's self?
Does he beg allegiance?
To divinity
And lend all his powers
To the Almighty:
Body, mind and soul
And declare himself
Saved?
This is faith in divinity?
Or is he heedless
Of the natural world
And soothes himself*

*With destiny
In which the result
Is always benefit
No matter what
The sign post said?
If this is faith
Then leave me no part
For I seek more
I seek glory in self sacrifice
To thy neighbor
To do them
As I would have them do me
To bear no pride
Which seeds the
Grains of destruction
To seek no treasure
And accept none but love
Give me this and
Yours be the rest
I am tired and weary
Though the sound
Of the starting gun
Rings through my ears
And the hardships of
The track,
Are still ahead
And the finish line is
Far over yonder hill
When the race is over*

And I am the winner

*Give me not medal
But definition*

Of faith

A present to

Mankind

A trophy

Unconquered

But a symbolic hope

This give me

And I am

A happy man

*****EW Verigin winter ???, 1960, (uncut)*****

Perhaps any critic might counter and state "how can anyone not want financial wealth?"

I will take the answer with me into the next dimension and perhaps there I will find the answers to "What is God?" The Doukhobor tenant is "Where there is Love, there is God."

I believe that because I have witnessed the other side of Love and therein is the definition of Hell.

To my family, I will always love you for the rest of my time on this Earth and beyond.

This is not the time to say goodbye but hello to a better understanding of life.

I continue with My Journey Through a Life of Opportunity!

Elmer Verigin