

Thanks, David Ray

Vernon Rowe, MD

Whirling out of the dustbowl,
infused with grief from the very start,
you showed us how to treasure life
and friends and our beloveds.

And to listen to birdsong
through the A-10 fighters thundering over
the sands of your early and late life home.
And to speak for peace in the face of war.

You taught us to sing each syllable
of alternative reality before we think.

And you taught us that though we are not
always who we think we are
and perhaps never will be who we hope
to be, who we are will always be
enough.