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C G  
 In the year of Nineteen Eighty Six,  
 C Em  
 On an icy winter's day  
 Am  
 The shuttle Challenger left the pad  
 Em Am  
 And started on her way  
 C G  
 The shuttle Challenger lifted off  
 C Em  
 With seven brave women and men  
 Am  
 In flames they died just ten miles high,  
 Em Am  
 And never came home again.  
 C G  
 Never came home again,  
 C G  
 In flames they died just ten miles high  
 Em Am  
 And never came home again.

And seventeen years later  
 Nearly forty miles high,  
 Columbia's wreckage wrote a line  
 Of fire across the sky  
 But long before the jetstream blew  
 Her trail of smoke away  
 We saw that it marked a highway  
 We would travel again some day.

—2003-02-01

So never say that they died in vain  
 Nor stay on the ground afraid,  
 The stars are one step closer now  
 Because of the price we've paid.  
 And mourn for the shuttles that fly no more,  
 And weep for the friends we've lost,  
 But to leave the Earth will still be worth  
 Whatever it has to cost.

And fire no guns in last salute  
 But let the rockets roar,  
 And reach for the wide and starry sky  
 As Challenger did before.  
 And raise no earthbound slab of stone,  
 To mark the place they lie,  
 But write their names with a shuttle's flames,  
 Ten miles in the sky.

And here's a toast to the shuttle crews  
 Who died for the dream of space  
 And all the pioneers who have  
 The sky for a resting place.  
 No grave nor tombstone do they need,  
 For their memory will survive  
 As long as we fly beyond the sky  
 And keep the dream alive.

Keep the dream alive,  
 As long as we fly beyond the sky  
 And keep the dream alive.

Keep the dream alive,  
 Let the shuttles fly beyond the sky  
 And keep the dream alive.

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