

NINETY-NINES PRAYER

Oh, Lord, it is good to be able to fly,
to share with your winged creatures the joy of our freedom of flight.

We thank you for your wondrous natural laws that lift our wings skyward and we thank you for the courageous pioneers who first mastered those laws so that all of us could fly through your friendly skies.

But as we soar high above this beautifully jeweled island home we call Earth and survey its glory as few others can, heighten, Oh Lord, our appreciation for the beauty of your creation, and increase our dedication to care for it.

And we beseech your presence with each of us whenever we are airborne. Keep us steady when we find ourselves suddenly "on top" and our human balances begin to play tricks on us.

Keep us alert when our throttles are at cruise, but our minds become lulled into idle, and keep us safe as we gently return to the earth from which we came.

We believe you are with us, Lord, but help our disbelief. Stay close by us and show us the way, for it is so good to be able to fly.

Reverend Robert S. Layne, Aviation Leaders Banquet, August 14, 1971