

## ABSTRACT

**DISSERTATION/THESIS/RESEARCH PAPER/CREATIVE PROJECT:** Another Day Goes By: An Original Composition for SSAATTBB Choir and Piano

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*Another Day Goes By* is a piece for an eight-part choir consisting of about eighty people and piano. It is nine minutes long and includes a piano introduction and coda, with some short interludes between the different stanzas of the poem. The text for this choral piece is a poem that was written by my father, Dr. Mark Roger Dettro. On May 30, 2008, my father passed away. Not long after, my sister suggested that I set the poem to music, but it was not until recently that I felt that my style was mature enough to portray the emotional content of the poem.

Before I began writing my piece, I decided to find other choral pieces that were similar in style to the piece that I wanted to write. These pieces are *I Am the True Vine* by Arvo Pärt; “Mid-Winter Waking” and “Intercession in Late October,” the fourth and fifth songs from Morten Lauridsen’s *Mid-Winter Songs*; and the song cycle *I Hate and I Love (Odi et amo)* by Dominick Argento. These pieces greatly inspired my composition, especially a technique used by Pärt that I call “layering.”