

## THE GUPPIES

Long before the advent of the hippie and the yuppie  
There was a class of warship that was fondly called the Guppy.  
Now the Guppy was a submarine, in case you didn't know,  
Long and black and sleek she was, and always on the go.

In World War Two, the submarines were our first line of attack,  
Many of them went out to sea and some did not come back,  
Now the submariners knew this but still they went to war,  
To defend their nation's freedom was what they were fighting for.

After World War Two had ended, when the Japs and Germans quit,  
Someone thought the old subs should be streamlined just a bit,  
So they re-designed the old boats and named them GUPPY Class  
With snorkels, better batt'ries and a hull to make 'em fast.

They went to sea both north and south from the East to setting sun,  
They never knew when night was o'er and daytime had begun.  
Theirs was a life of silence and the darkness of the deep,  
Sometimes their only pleasure were a few hours of blessed sleep.

They ploughed the seas from Pole to Pole in defense of freedom's goals,  
From Pearl Harbor, and Yokosuka to the faroff Iceland shoals,  
To spy on Soviet submarines and other ships of war  
Was the job of these brave lads who roamed the ocean floor.

They ran patrols from Greenland to the shores of Timbaktu  
The GIUK GAP and MED RUN were just nothing for a crew  
of Guppy sailors who thought the NORTHERN RUN okay,  
Then take shore leave in Norfolk for another night of play.

How many Guppies were there? Far more than I could name.  
And each has earned an honored place in the Guppy Hall of Fame.  
They fought the war with Soviets in secrecy and guile  
Until the foe gave up the fight, which made it all worth while.

Now they're gone, as all ships go when their tour of duty's o'er,  
Brave Guppies, stalwart warriors, they roam the seas no more,  
They've gone to graves far out at sea and this should be their lot,  
Gone from the sight of those they served but not to be forgot.

Bob Harrison, 9/4/00, Greenfield, IN