

DAVID ATHEY

Another One for William Stafford

When I asked my students,
“What would be a good metaphor
for a guardian angel?”

they answered:

“A bald eagle.”

“A killer robot. With wings.”

“A Black Hawk helicopter.”

“A stealth bomber.”

And Michael, a troubled young man
in the back corner, said:

“A sunflower.”

And the classroom became silent
as we thought long and hard
and gentle about that.