

Media Kit

Loreen Gibbons

Author of

All Eternity Lies Before Me:

***Hope, Faith, and Love After the Loss of
Navy Alfa Foxtrot 586***

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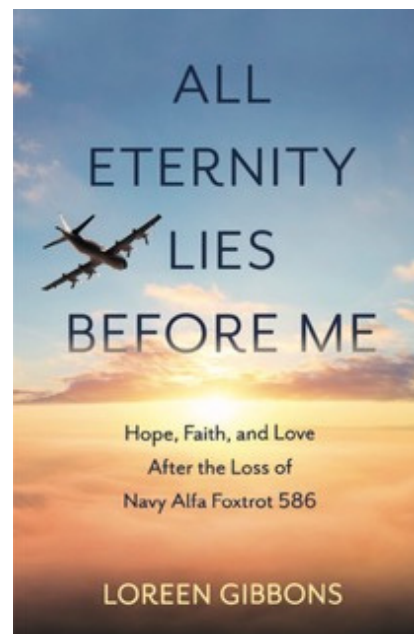


Announcing

All Eternity Lies Before Me

In her poignant and powerful debut memoir, ***All Eternity Lies Before Me: Hope, Faith, and Love After the Loss of Navy Alfa Foxtrot 586*** (January 7, 2025; Published by She Writes Press | Distributed by Simon & Schuster), Loreen Gibbons recounts the harrowing true story of her husband's fateful Cold War mission and the subsequent journey of grief, love, and resilience that followed.

Loreen Gibbons, a former Navy wife, shares a gripping dual narrative that intertwines her experiences at home as her husband, Lieutenant Commander Jerry Grigsby, faced dangerous conditions during a military intelligence mission near the Siberian coast in 1978. When his P-3 Orion aircraft suffered catastrophic engine fires and was forced to ditch into the freezing, mountainous seas of the North Pacific, Loreen was left to grapple with the uncertainty of her husband's fate. As Jerry and his crew fought for survival in the frigid waters, Loreen navigated the emotional turmoil of not knowing whether her husband would return home.



All Eternity Lies Before Me is more than just a tale of military heroism; it's a testament to the strength of the human spirit. Loreen's journey from grief to healing is a moving tribute to those who serve and those who stand by them, highlighting the often-overlooked sacrifices made by military families.

For fans of Captain C.B. Sullenberger's *Sully: My Search for What Really Matters*, the Miracle on the Hudson was that everyone on board Cactus 1549 survived. To the commanders and rescuers of Navy Alfa Foxtrot 586 the miracle was that anyone survived. This story resonates with military wives and mothers like Vicki Cody, Julie Tully, and Mary Tillman. Their praise underscores the book's significance as a historical account as well as a profoundly personal story of love, loss, and resilience.

Please let me know if you are interested in a review copy and an interview with Loreen.

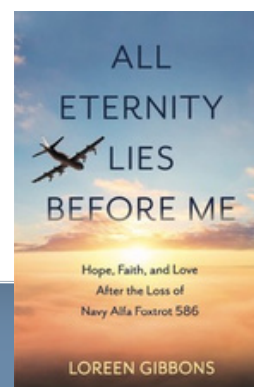
Loreen Gibbons

Loreen Gibbons is a former Navy wife, remarried Navy widow, and retired elementary school teacher whose life has been marked by resilience, love, and an unwavering commitment to family. Her debut memoir, *All Eternity Lies Before Me: Hope, Faith, and Love After the Loss of Navy Alfa Foxtrot 586*, offers a poignant and gripping account of her late husband's heroic sacrifice during a Cold War mission, and the emotional journey that followed.

Originally written as a series of letters to her grandson, Spencer who joined the Army right out of high school. The memoir was born out of a desire to introduce him to the grandfather he never had the chance to meet. Loreen's narrative intertwines the perilous events of the mission with her personal story of loss and healing, creating a powerful tribute to both her husband and the enduring strength of military families.

Loreen now lives with her husband, Matt, in the beautiful hill country of California's Central Coast, where she enjoys reading, gardening, supporting the philanthropies of her P.E.O. chapter, and activities with her family. Her writing is a testament to the power of love, faith, and the human spirit.

Visit Loreen's [Website](#).





Advance Praise:

All Eternity Lies Before Me

"A gripping and detailed account that brings the reader into the increasing tension and heroics of the crew of Alfa Foxtrot 586. Loreen Gibbons masterfully captures the dedication and resilience of Navy families."

– CDR Everett Alvarez, USN (Ret.)

First U.S. Navy Vietnam POW, Author of *Chained Eagle and Code of Conduct*

"A breathtaking memoir that honors the extraordinary strength and resilience of military spouses. Gibbons' story will stay with you for eternity."

– Julie Tully, Navy Wife, Author of *Dispatches from The Cowgirl*

"A gripping personal account that shines a light on the heroics of servicemen and their families. A testament to love, grit, and resilience."

– RADM Kyle Cozad, USN (Ret.)

Former Chief of Naval Education and Training
CEO of National Naval Aviation Museum Foundation

Author of *Relentless Positivity*

"A compelling narrative that blends tragedy, love, and remembrance. Gibbons' story is an inspiring testament to the power of love and the strength of the human spirit."

– Dennis N.T. Perkins, PhD, USMC, CEO of Syncretics Group Inc.

Author of *Leading at The Edge*

"A powerful and expansive narrative that reminds us of the resilience and sacrifice of military families. Bravo Zulu!"

– Darrel Whitcomb, COL USAF (Ret.)

Author of *The Rescue of Bat 21 and Combat Search and Rescue in Desert Storm*

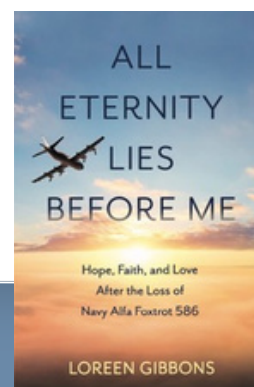
"A real page turner that highlights the heroic actions of the flight crew, the survival of some of the crew members, and the aftermath of the tragedy. Gibbons takes the reader behind the scenes of her life as a Naval aviator's wife- the stress, the dangers, the sleepless nights, and ultimately her worst fears realized. A great read!"

– Vicki Cody, Author of *Fly Safe: Letters from the Gulf War and Reflections from Back Home*

All Eternity Lies Before Me

by Loreen Gibbons | She Writes Press | January 7, 2025
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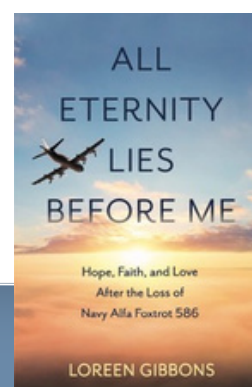
Interview Intro

Loreen Gibbons is a debut author whose memoir, *All Eternity Lies Before Me*, shares her experience as a Navy pilot's wife during a Cold War mission that ended in disaster. The book recounts the harrowing ditching of Alfa Foxtrot 586 in the North Pacific on October 26, 1978, and the crew's fight for survival. Loreen's story is one of resilience, hope, and faith as she navigates the loss of her husband and finds new love with a survivor. Her powerful account offers a deep look into military life, survival, and the strength of the human spirit.

Facebook - [@Loreen Gibbons](#)

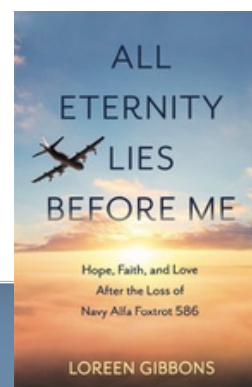
Visit Loreen's Website - loreengibbons.com

You can download a high-resolution book jacket and author photo [here](#).



Suggested Questions

1. What inspired you to write *All Eternity Lies Before Me*, and how did the process of writing this memoir begin?
2. The book presents a dual narrative. How did you balance telling your personal story with the harrowing experiences of your husband and his crew?
3. What was it like to revisit such a painful chapter of your life through the interviews with the surviving crew members?
4. Can you describe your emotional journey while writing this memoir, from the initial idea to the final draft?
5. Your husband, Jerry Grigsby, is a central figure in this story. What do you hope readers will learn about him and his legacy?
6. How did your experiences as a Navy wife shape your perspective on resilience and survival, both in the context of the Cold War and in your personal life?
7. The book touches on themes of love, loss, and faith. How did your faith support you during this incredibly difficult time?
8. What message do you hope military and other families, particularly those who have lost loved ones, will take away from your book?
9. You started writing letters to your grandson Spencer as a way to introduce him to his grandfather. How did those letters evolve into this full-length memoir?
10. What challenges did you face in reliving and writing about such a traumatic event, and how did you overcome them?
11. How has the response been from the military community, particularly those who were familiar with Alfa Foxtrot 586?
12. What role did the support from your Navy community play in helping you through your husband's loss?
13. The title *All Eternity Lies Before Me* is very evocative. Can you explain its significance and how it relates to your story?
14. What was the most surprising or unexpected thing you learned during your research for this memoir?
15. Now that the book is published, how do you hope it will contribute to the broader understanding of the sacrifices made by military families?





Anticipation

Almaden Valley, California

October 26, 1978

Nine-year-old Karen Todd, our neighbor from across the street, tells me about her nightmare as I unlatch the safety lock of the backyard gate to let her go home. Unlike the other outrageous stories she has told me in the past, this one stops me dead.

“A screaming eagle was diving after your husband,” she says as she flashes that impish look of hers. Something long forgotten and locked away begins to churn up emotions as I gasp and feel my heart pound in fear. She studies my face and turns away, then wraps her towel around her dripping swimsuit and pads home barefoot across the street.

How did that get into her dream? Does she even know my husband’s Navy squadron is called the Golden Eagles? I take a deep breath, pushing my feelings down before letting go of the gate. The safety mechanism takes over, the gate swings shut, and the safety lock clicks into place. All is secure once again. Karen can’t possibly know anything about that, can she?

I compose my face before turning back to my daughters, who are almost finished putting away the pool toys. “Scoot upstairs now for a quick shower. We’ll have just enough time to eat dinner before your marionette class,” I tell them.

From the corner of my eye, I catch a flash of light in the distance that seems to be coming from the northwest. It distracts me and is gone before I can make anything of it. Was it some kind of explosion? A fire? I shiver despite the glorious warmth of this rare Indian summer day and work to dispel the sense of foreboding that is starting to take hold. I turn back to pick up a wet towel as the pool sweep clicks on and begins its journey around the pool, cleaning away the debris of the afternoon swim.

