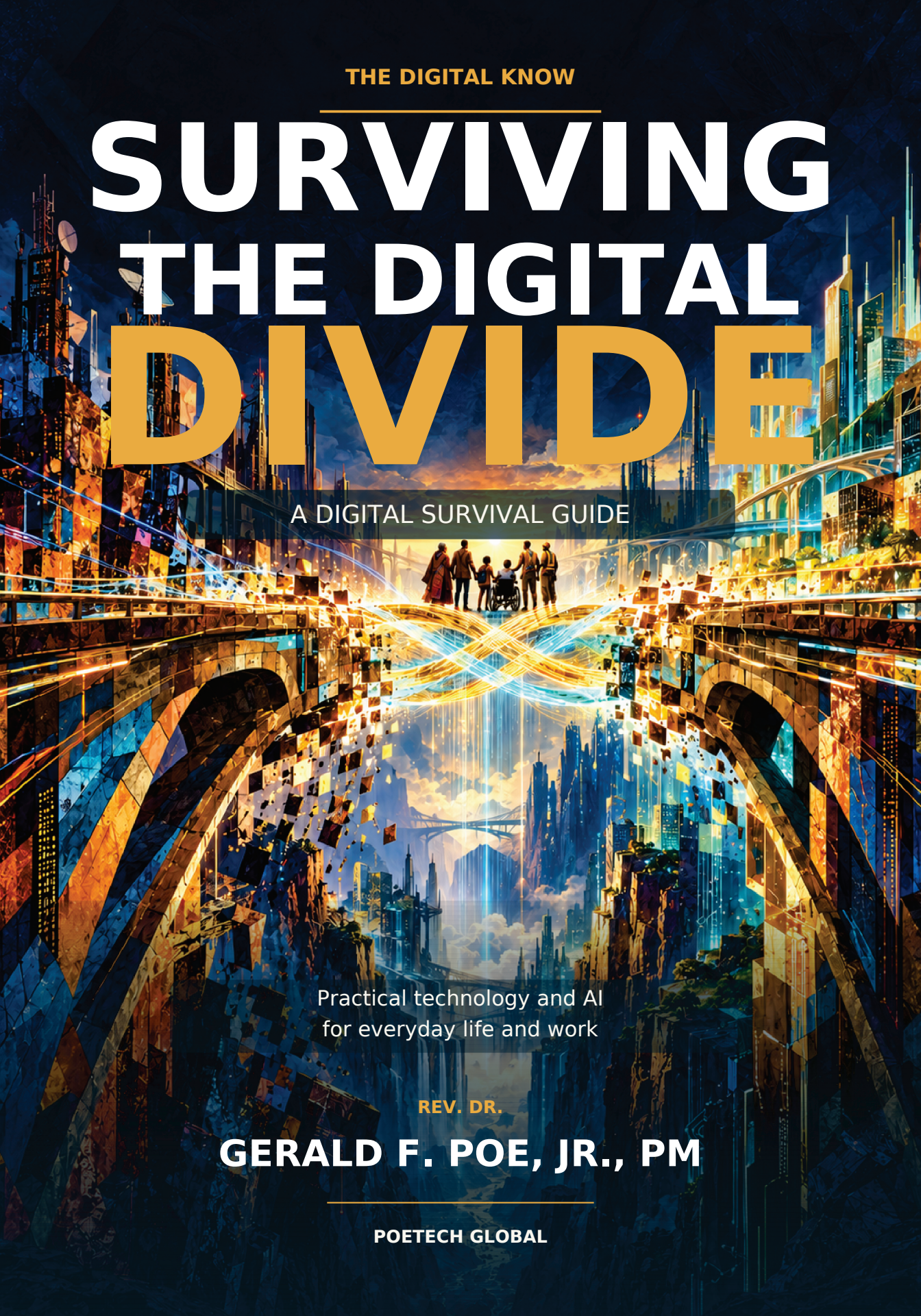
THE DIGITAL KNOW

SURVIVING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

A DIGITAL SURVIVAL GUIDE



Practical technology and AI
for everyday life and work

REV. DR.

GERALD F. POE, JR., PM

POETECH GLOBAL

THE DIGITAL KNOW

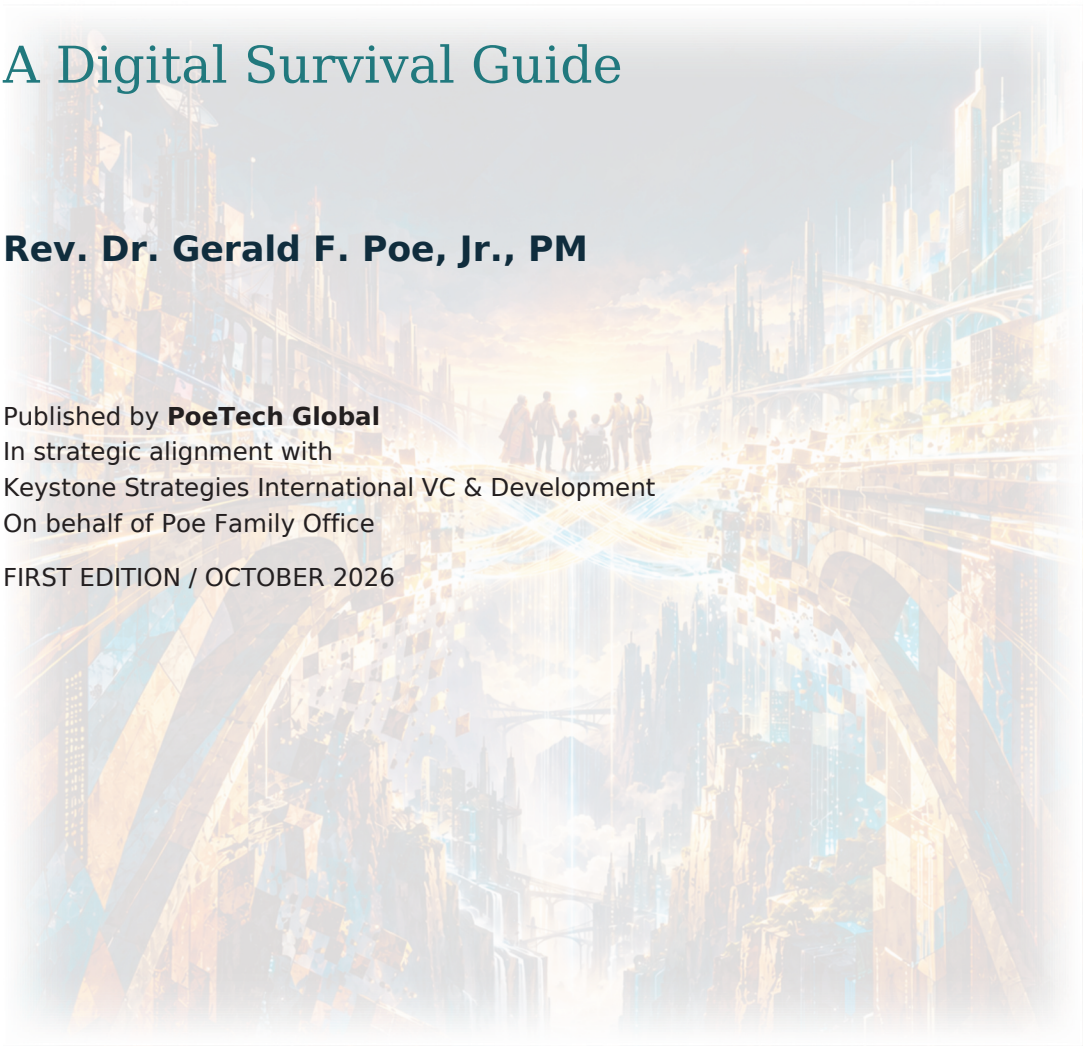
Surviving the Digital Divide

A Digital Survival Guide

Rev. Dr. Gerald F. Poe, Jr., PM

Published by **PoeTech Global**
In strategic alignment with
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On behalf of Poe Family Office

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Dedication

To my father, Gerald F. Poe, Sr.

Dad, long before artificial intelligence became a headline, you showed me what it meant to live with intelligence, discipline, courage, and curiosity.

You carried those qualities into the skies as a B-52 pilot in Vietnam and later as an Eastern Airlines pilot. You carried them into engineering, broadcasting, telecommunications, and the patient work of making technology serve people. As chief engineer of the Black College Satellite Network, you helped bring the Million Man March to the world. You understood that a signal could carry more than information. It could carry a people's voice, dignity, and possibility.

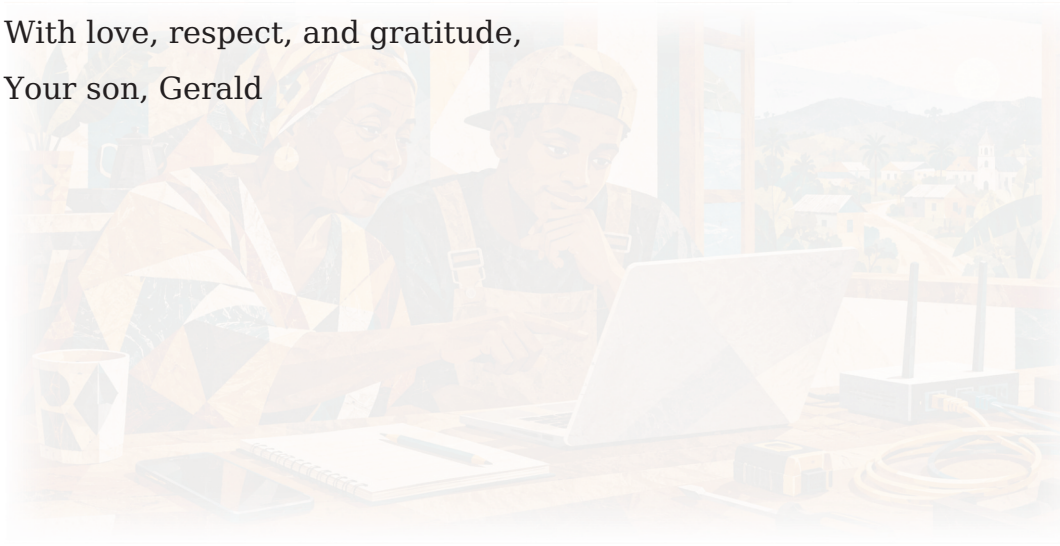
Your work as a technologist, drone pilot, and FCC-licensed operator never became an excuse to stop learning. You kept reaching for the next instrument, the next system, the next answer. That steadfast use of technology has been one of the quiet lessons of my life.

This book is for everyone trying to cross a divide. Its first bridge, for me, was you. Your support gave me room to imagine. Your example taught me to do the work that imagination requires.

I love you very much, Dad. I love you dearly. Thank you for the strength you have given our family, the knowledge you have shared, and the future you have helped us see.

With love, respect, and gratitude,

Your son, Gerald



A note from the author

Technology can make a capable person feel small in a hurry. A familiar task moves behind a login. A job application becomes a maze. A machine you repaired for years gains a software screen nobody explained. A child learns an app faster than an adult can pronounce its name. An elder is told to scan a code when what they need is somebody to slow down and listen.

I have spent much of my life around systems, infrastructure, and people trying to make things work. One lesson keeps returning: knowledge has little value if we cannot put it within reach of the people who need it. A brilliant tool that humiliates its user is a poor bridge.

I wrote this book for the child with questions, the elder with wisdom, the worker with worn hands, the professional carrying responsibility, and the entrepreneur building something with limited resources. You do not need to become a computer scientist to gain control of your digital life. You need a sound foundation, useful practice, and the courage to ask another question.

The stoic approach is straightforward. Attend to what you can control. Protect your attention. Prepare before a crisis. Accept that the tools will change, then build habits that survive the change. You cannot command every update, every market, or every new invention. You can decide how you learn, what you verify, and who gets access to your information.

We will talk about routers and files, passwords and scams, AI and automation. We will also talk about dignity. A digital divide is often a divide in money, language, time, accessibility, support, or opportunity. It cannot be closed by telling people to try harder while leaving the door locked.

The Digital Know is the habit of staying aware without becoming overwhelmed. Learn enough to act. Practice enough to trust your own hands. Verify enough to avoid being carried away by a confident answer.

Start where your feet are. We can build from there.

Rev. Dr. Gerald F. Poe, Jr., PM

GpII

How to use this book

Read straight through if you are building your foundation. If you need immediate help, use this table, the contents, or the subject index. The glossary explains unfamiliar words in everyday language. Resource numbers such as [R1] lead to the primary-source directory near the back.

Your immediate need	Begin here
Learn the computer and phone basics	Chapters 2 and 4
Understand the internet or fix a weak connection	Chapter 3
Secure accounts or respond to a scam	Chapters 7 and 8; Appendix A
Begin using AI responsibly	Chapters 9 through 12
Understand agents and engineering terminology	Chapters 13 and 14
Help a child, elder, or worker	Chapters 17 through 20
Find affordable and accessible routes	Chapters 21 and 22
Keep learning as technology changes	Chapters 23 and 24

Every chapter contains a principle, practical instruction, and a practice task. The practice tasks use a device you already have whenever possible. Write in a notebook if the book's pages do not offer enough room. Finishing a task yourself matters more than finishing a chapter quickly.

Practice alone, with a trusted helper, or as a household or workplace group. Helpers should explain the next step and let the learner perform it. Never demand a learner's password as the price of assistance. A learner should leave a lesson with more control over their own life.

The book's diagrams are exact teaching aids. Its collage illustrations are visual metaphors for connection, judgment, and community. They are not pictures of a particular person or a technical instruction. Instructions describe common patterns rather than guaranteeing that every device has the same buttons. When labels differ, consult the official help for your device and software version.

Keep a short learning record: what I tried, what worked, what failed, and what I will try next. Date each entry. You are building evidence of your own capability.

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