



Veterans

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I can tell you that, down deep, every veteran who escaped death in war wonders, "Why me? Why am I alive when others who served side-by-side with me died?" Luck? Fate? God's will? Take your pick, but on Veterans Day that question bubbles inescapably to the surface in those who served and survived.

The marching bands and military parades will go on around the country

on November 11, and the kids will love the hoopla. It's right to give honor and respect to those who served and to give three cheers for our country and its flag. But maybe it would be better to make November 11 voting day, and make sure that every citizen has the right and time to vote for those who would lead us ... hopefully to happier times without war.

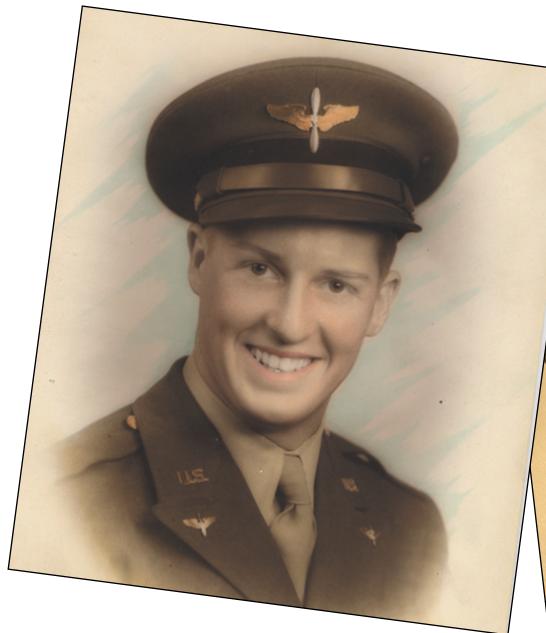
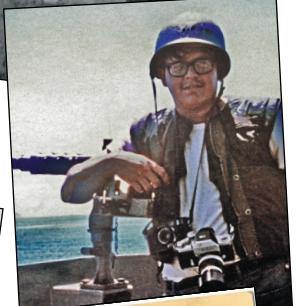
Thank a Veteran: A Veterans day poem

Today is the day we honor,
the noble and the brave,
the men and woman who dedicated their lives,
and the sacrifices that they have made.

When America had an urgent need,
they were the first to raise their hand,
without thinking twice about it,
they were proud to take a stand.

Some came back from war with battle scars,
others in flagged draped coffins,
even though their flesh may have left,
their spirits will never be forgotten.

They unselfishly and knowingly,
put their lives on the line,
so when you see a veteran, thank them,
cause without them, freedom would have died..



*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we
lie*

In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

*To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
grow*

In Flanders fields.



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