

The WWII Veteran (A Dying Breed)

Lots of folks just ignore him
That old man over there
With the time-worn face and faltering step,
And a crown of silver white hair.

To them he is just another old man that time has passed by
And he doesn't stand out in a crowd,
But if you knew what this man has done
Of him you would certainly be proud.

The old man is a warrior,
The veteran of World War Two.
He was baptized in fire at the bloom of his youth
And bravely fought for the red, white and blue.

A tiny American flag
is proudly worn in his lapel.
A reminder of what he had fought for
And of his comrades who fell.

A great fervor of patriotism
Swept our country back then.
While America was at war,
And the call went out for men.

Yes, the call went out and they signed up
Though they were just in their teens.
They joined the Army, Navy and Air Corps
And some chose to be in the Marines.

He was one of many,
Who heard his country's call.
And left his civilians life
To join up and give his all.

Sixty odd years ago, he lost his youth
In horrific battles across the sea.
He fought to save our precious freedom
And to ensure a world of peace.

Youth and innocence were left behind
And he fought on foreign lands.
From Omaha's bloody beaches
To Iwo Jima's sands

He bravely faced uncertain death
On blood-stained land and in raging skies
And stormy seas around the world
And saw his comrades meet their demise.

He's heard the sound of taps
Echo many time throughout the years.
As his comrades are laid to rest,
His tired old eyes are dimmed with tears.

And now he faces certain death
As the days slip by, one by one.
He'll join his buddies who fell years ago
Before their lives had just begun.

Many of these young men never came back,
They paid the ultimate price.
They fought and died on foreign soil
And we must honor their sacrifice.

His numbers are daily dwindling
And his ranks are growing thin,
And the day is fast approaching
When taps will sound for him.

We should always remember
All those who fought and fell,
And those who came back crippled
In body and mind as well.

Just take time to thank him
For what he gave up for the world
Think of their pain and courage
When our American flag is unfurled.

So tell him you're proud of his deeds
If perchance you clasp his hands
Let him know how grateful you are
For the risks he took to save our land.

The tears will pass by
And these old veterans will be gone,
And we'll be forever be indebted to them
As our precious freedom lives on.