

A POEM WORTH READING

**He was getting old and paunchy
And his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion,
Telling stories of the past.**

**Of a war that he once fought in
And the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies;
They were heroes, every one.**

**And 'tho sometimes to his neighbours
His tales became a joke,
All his buddies listened quietly
For they knew where of he spoke.**

**But we'll hear his tales no longer,
For ol' Joe has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer
For a Veteran died today.**

**He won't be mourned by many,
Just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary,
Very quiet sort of life.**

**He held a job and raised a family,
Going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing,
'Tho a Veteran died today.**

**When politicians leave this earth,
Their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing,
And proclaim that they were great.**

**Papers tell of their life stories
From the time that they were young,
But the passing of a Veteran
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.**

**Is the greatest contribution
To the welfare of our land,
Someone who breaks his promise
And deceives his fellow man?**

**Or the ordinary fellow
Who in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country
And offers up his life?**

**The politician's stipend
And the style in which he lives,
Are often disproportionate,
To the service that he gives.**

**While the ordinary Veteran,
Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal
And perhaps a pension, small.**

**It is not the politicians
With their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom
That our country now enjoys.**

**Should you find yourself in danger,
With your enemies at hand,
Would you really want some cop-out,
With his ever-waffling stand?**

**Or would you want a Veteran
His home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Veteran,
Who would fight until the end.**

**He was just a common Veteran,
And his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us
We may need his likes again.**

**For when countries are in conflict,
We find the Veteran's part,
Is to clean up all the troubles
That the politicians start.**

**If we cannot do him honour
While he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage
At the ending of his days.**

**Perhaps just a simple headline
In the paper that might say:
"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
A VETERAN DIED TODAY."**

**PLEASE pass On The Patriotism!
YOU can make a difference.**

**If you are proud of our Vets, then send this to them.
You'll be glad you did.**