

A Poem Worth Reading



*He was getting old and paunchy
And his hair was falling fast,*

*And he sat around the VFW,
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 neighbors
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' Bob has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer
For a Soldier 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 Soldier 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 Soldier
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.*

*Is the greatest contribution
To the welfare of our land,
Some jerk who breaks his promise
And cons 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 Soldier,
Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal
And perhaps a pension, small..*

*It's so easy to forget them,
For it is so many times
That our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys,
Went to battle, but we know,*

*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 Soldier--
His home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Soldier,
Who would fight until the end.*

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

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

*If we cannot do him honor
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 SOLDIER DIED TODAY.."*