

# Defenders Of The Flag

A Veteran's Tribute  
by Bill Vernon

A mother holds her newborn babe, her precious pride and joy.

A father's eyes swell up with tears as he holds his little boy.

Through the years they teach their son what the Ten Commandments say.

But then the thunderclouds of war call the strong young man away.

As a kitten grows into a mountain lion, the young man must transform.

He now must show an evil face as the warrior within is born.

The winds of war - a battle cry, the flames of hell burn wide.

The wings of prayer is all he has as the warrior mounts his ride.

While governments squabble differences warriors disappear each day.

Some are taken prisoners, while others are MIA

Some reach up from cold dark graves, their loved ones bare the pain.

Some harbor memories within the mind and slowly go insane.

Once classmates in their younger years now Defenders Of The Flag

They pray the peace they fought hard for shall not begin to sag.

But history tells a different tale as new conflicts begin

Enjoy for now the peaceful times 'til the warrior rides again.