



The soldier KIA will never return home, leaving his family to move forward with only the memories of him and all the unanswered questions they have. The thoughts of what will their lives be with out him?



The wounded soldier thankful for his life and indebted to his buddies for getting him patched up and off the battlefield to be transported back to someplace safe where his injuries are attended to. He tries to remember what happened and who it was that came to his aid. He is now in the care of the staff at the facility he is sent to for treatment. He will forever remember the faces of the people there that took care of him and helped him through his recovery. As the days pass his thoughts turn to his buddies he left behind and prays that they return home safely. Time goes on and he can't get the memories of that tragic day out of his mind. This is something that he will continue to deal with for who knows how long.



The lucky one, the guy who makes it back home at the end of his tour without being seriously injured. He made it, his tour is up and he made it back home to his family, the only thing he thought about since he arrived in Vietnam. He is finally home! He is safe! He can now start his life and do all the things he dreamed about doing when he got home. He realizes it may take a little time he is not as comfortable as he thought he would be. His thoughts are drawn to his brothers that did not make it home. To his buddies who were wounded, he wonders how they are did they make a recovery. The guy from Philly or was it Buffalo. What was his name? Oh it will come to him! As the weeks and months go by he continues to think about those guys. He deals with the tragic things he seen and experienced the thoughts and dreams continue to eat at him. He continues to feel the survivor's guilt, why them and not me, could I have done more? He doesn't know what to do, there is no one to talk to and besides who would understand. There must be something wrong with him, maybe a little more time and these memories will go away. The months turn into years, no one understands him, what is wrong with all these people he is dealing with? His life is just not turning out the way he thought it would. No friends, his family feels distant, what do they want from him. Just leave me alone, I'm ok, there is nothing wrong with me! I am the lucky one, I made it home safely.



by Sam Toven