

Defenders of The Fort

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Sometimes in the late of night when I cannot sleep,
My thoughts go back in time to memories hidden deep.
There I dare survey the past, and what I might have lost,
Or maybe what I might have gained, and what had been the cost.

There are times in all our lives that we just can't forget,
More than just old memories are living with us yet.
Between the days of now and then, between conflict and calm,
That point of reference in my life is always Vietnam.

Guarding, watching, vigilant..., Security Police by trade,
Defend The Fort was our creed and the promise that we made.
While others slept we stood our post, and sometimes paid the cost,
But never once on our guard was an airbase ever lost!

We didn't go to some great battle each time we went on post,
Most times our worst enemy was in our minds like ghosts.
But when the battles came, and the fires of hell rained down,
As Brothers we fought side by side and bravely stood our ground.

I wonder how many more brave men might have died alone,
If the aircraft that we guarded might have never flown?
If the air support had never come to answer their dire call,
How many thousands more would be etched upon "The Wall"?

It gives me pride to know we always did our best.
Our legacy was born in war and we passed every test.
Second to none, heads held high, I survey now with pride,
And honor my Brothers one and all, especially those who died.

Air Police, Security Police, K-9, and Safeside,
Augmentees, Security Force, all can say with pride,
When my country called, I answered, and proudly now report,
Your Air Force is secure, rest well..., Defenders of The Fort.

Randy "Ramps" Stutler

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