At One Time I Was A Really Good Dancer

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In my high school years I was an extremely shy person I found it hard to compete with those sarcastic jocks That seemed to like nothing more than to embarrass us.

Us being the regular guys who didn't feel those needs The needs to slam guys like us into the ground for fun Trying to impress the popular girls or some cheerleader

They thought because we didn't act like a Neanderthal That we could not say a word at all to any of the girls They were like cavemen laying claim to any girl in sight

If you crossed their perceived territory God help you They didn't think any girl needed a guy with manners Who respected the fact that she was not to be mauled

How or why would they ever think of talking to one of us We weren't muscle bound thugs who could crush a pop can No we couldn't do that trick of slamming it into your head

But we did have many things that a young lady would like We were smart and articulate and knew how to treat a lady And then too some of us were damn good dancers in school

Dancing helped me get over my shyness and I was a gentleman The jocks would make fun of us if we opened doors for the girls It seemed there was nothing in those heads except for muscles

After entering the Air Force I had almost 8 months of training And at the end of the week we would go to the USO dance in town Several of us who were damn good dancers were getting popular

They would hold these dance contest at the USO club in Rantoul So each weekend we would go and compete for some nice prizes When they offered dinner for two prizes everyone wanted to win

I was still a really good dancer when I got out of the Air Force And one of the things that attracted my wife to me was my dancing Now years later my legs don't work so well even for a slow dance My time in Vietnam has created many health problems in my life now And though I am most grateful for having survived that time there I think one of the things I miss most from my youth is the dancing

To have been so in tune with your partner and to achieve perfection It was a passion I know now that I'll never again have in my lifetime To see me now you'd never guess I use to be a damn good dancer once.