

# WHEN?

*"When will you forgive and forget the Vietnam War protesters?"*

by Vietnam War poet:  
**Jack R. Kays**  
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## When?

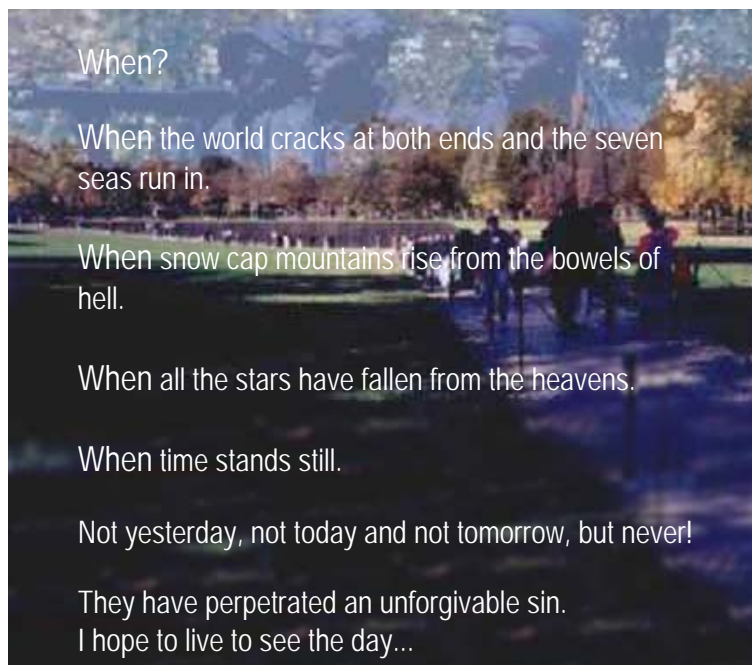
**They gathered in the streets and in the coffee house across this great land , where they plotted and planed.  
They crusaded, yelled, cursed and in open defiance burned their draft cards in hand.  
They brazenly wave the enemy's flag in our face.  
They shouted, "It's not our damn war, we won't go!"  
They spit on and burned the Red, White and Blue and yelled "F---- you too!"  
The POW's under went brutal, intense and prolonged agony,  
and this man has the audacity to ask me "When?"  
They made fun of the MIA's and spit on the returning WIA's and shouted, "Baby Killers!  
They screamed their approval when Jane sat on the AAA gun in Hanoi and thumbed her nose  
at our fighting men and women.**

**I can think of over Fifty Eight thousand reasons for not forgiving or forgetting. And they are  
all inscribed on a cold black granite wall.**

**And this man has the audacity to ask me "When? Then they ran and hid-out in all four corners of the earth to keep  
out of harms way.  
When it was all over, they sneaked back into the good old US of A under the protection of the  
highest office of the land.  
"This was an unjust war." Was the lame excuse they used to justify their immoral sin.**

**I ask , "Who gave them a choice?"  
No one gave you or me a choice! It was our duty, and it was the law of the land.**

**Now, today this man has the audacity to ask me, "When am I going to forget and forgive?"  
Well, let me tell you something my friend, I have the tenacity to answer this question once  
and for all!**



When they are all... just dust in the wind.

Jackie R. Kays  
SSgt USAF  
35th APS  
Đà Nẵng, AB - 1965

Hi Guys, A couple of months ago, I ran an article on the web, entitled: "Vietnam War Defectors" I received several positive messages in regards to that article. A few days ago, out of the blue came an E-mail response to the article. I won't bore you with the details of the message, but it was chastising and dripping with sarcasm about the article. Sarcasm runs off of me like water on a duck back. But, one question he ask stuck in my proverbial craw. It was: "When was I going to forgive and forget the V. War protesters?" I answered with the above little poem.

Jackie R. Kays

*We Take Care of Our Own*

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