

Vietnam War Poetry

**Outside the Wire**

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*Outside of the Wire*

*We have all been outside the wire sometime in our lives  
and we all know the inherent dangers; bouncing betties,  
claymores, mortars enemy small fire, friendly fire and  
sometimes the worst threat of all; ourselves.*

*In order to get back to safety we must trust in our  
Comrades in Arms, our training, our skills, our  
family ties, our faith and our determination to  
make it back to the safety and protection of our  
Comrades, friends and family!*

*There are time when we all feel like quitting, when the burden  
seem to much to bear and we find ourselves outside of the wire  
with our back to the wire, that's when it's time to trust our  
brotherhood, our friends and our faith to guide us back to  
reason and safety.*

*Sometime one of the biggest obstacles to reason is our attitude,  
which dictates our actions in all matters. We can not be right all  
the time and realizing this fact we must be big enough to admit  
and submit to compromise which can open the gates to the wire  
and return us to the safety of our compound, our buddies, our  
family and friends.*

*There is no honor in quitting!*

*To quit is to parish!*

*Remember the VSPA Motto;*

*“We take care of our own!”*

*The timeless combat code;*

*“One for all and all for one!”*

*A wise man once said;*

*“No man is an Island to himself.” (How True!)*

*Jackie R. Kays*

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