



Korean War Veterans Honored

One by one the Korean War veterans entered the room where they gathered before the parade in which they were the Grand Marshall. I had the honor of placing their name tags on, handing them and their wives a small flag to wave during the parade, and giving them a hug. Several of the veterans found a seat to sit in for a bit and some found another veteran to get to know. I was excited for the Korean War veterans and found it such an honor to be standing among them.

As the minutes passed, we awaited the arrival of the only living recipient of the "Congressional Medal of Honor" living in North Carolina, who is also a Korean War veteran, Rudolph "Rudy" Hernandez. Veterans visited and wandered as the moments got closer to them getting on the floats made especially for them. I watched for the arrival of "Rudy", and the next thing I knew he came walking in with two men following him, both wearing army shirts, both veterans. They were Danny and John, they too were quiet, and maybe a bit overwhelmed at all who were around them. Soon they would find themselves among friends. Veterans saluted "Rudy" and he smiled. I gave him his name tag, his flag and his hug. He whispered "God Bless You" as he sat down in the front row. Danny and John sat close behind,

watching all that was going on around them. Off and on I would go over to "Rudy" and give him a hug and make sure he was doing ok, and he would hug back gently, yet in his strong self.

All the veterans were ready to get on their floats. Some had mentioned that there was never a parade for them before so this was a first for many. So many have been through so much, this parade I know they will talk about for a long time. The moment came when the veterans started out the door for the floats and "Rudy" got into the vehicle he was going to ride



on in the parade. Danny and John were close behind. The Korean War veterans were so excited that the moment finally came for them to be honored. I can't even imagine how they felt, all I could see was the





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smiles on their faces, but in a way I knew better. Their hearts are smiling so much bigger on the inside.



As the parade began, the Korean War veterans and "Rudy" came by, waving at the spectators and the spectators smiled and waved back. What touched me the most was a veteran and his wife who were sitting in chairs and who were first to get a glance at the parade, they stood to their feet and the veteran saluted "Rudy" and the "Korean war veterans and his wife placed her hand over her heart. I thought that was so beautiful.



As spectators waved, clapped or saluted, the Korean War veterans, I watched their smiles grow so much bigger. I had a smile bigger in my heart also, just watching them, wondering what they were feeling.

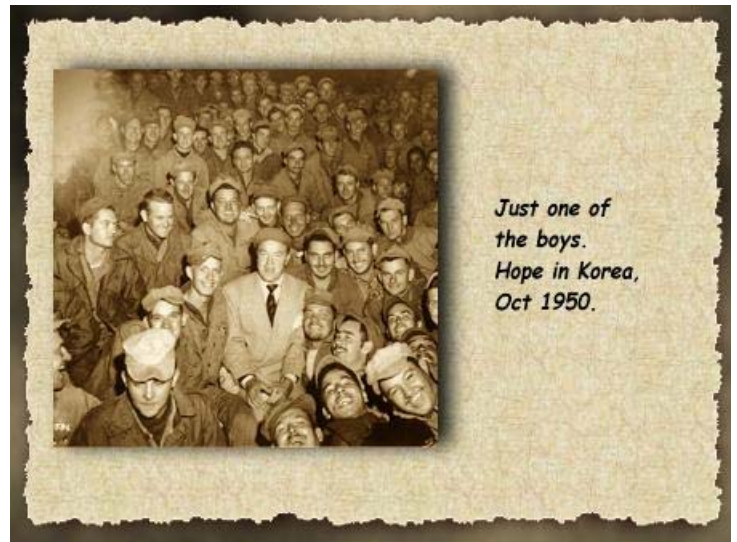
After the parade, the veterans returned back to the room in which they began, they shared the joy they



felt in their hearts and how much the parade meant to them.

Thank You to you very special Korean War veterans, you too make this world such a beautiful place, just by you being in it. Thank you for the chance to honor you.

Cheryl Ann.
2007



Just one of the boys.
Hope in Korea,
Oct 1950.





Medal of Honor Recipient



Rodolfo Hernandez

Rank: Corporal

Organization: U.S. Army, Company G, 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team.

Place and date: Near Wontong-ni, Korea, May 31, 1951.

Entered service at: Fowler, Calif.

Birth: 1931, Colton, Calif.

General Order No.: 40, April 21, 1962

Citation: Corporal Rodolfo P. Hernandez, United States Army, a member of Company G 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team, distinguished

himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy near Wontong-ni, Korea on 31 May 1951. His platoon, in defensive positions on Hill 420, came under ruthless attack by a numerically superior and fanatical hostile force, accompanied by heavy artillery, mortar, and machinegun fire which inflicted numerous casualties on the platoon. His comrades were forced to withdraw due to lack of ammunition but Corporal Hernandez, although wounded in an exchange of grenades, continued to deliver deadly fire into the ranks of the onrushing assailants until a ruptured cartridge rendered his rifle inoperative. Immediately leaving his position, Corporal Hernandez rushed the enemy armed only with rifle and bayonet. Fearlessly engaging the foe, he killed six of the enemy before falling unconscious from grenade, bayonet, and bullet wounds but his heroic action momentarily halted the enemy advance and enabled his unit to counterattack and retake the lost ground. The indomitable fighting spirit, outstanding courage, and tenacious devotion to duty clearly demonstrated by Corporal Hernandez reflect the highest credit upon himself, the infantry, and the U.S. Army.





Happy Birthday Wishes

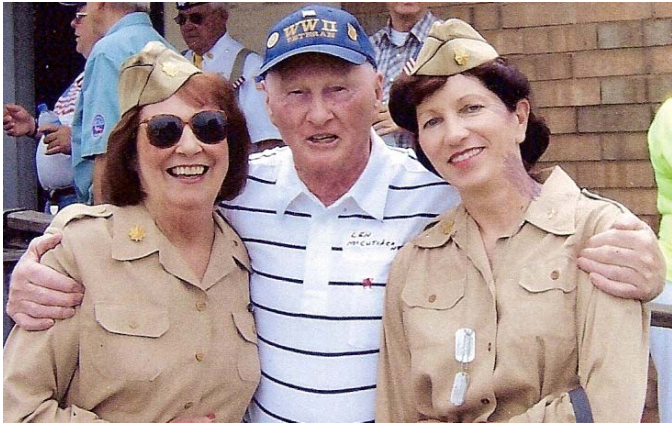
Happy Birthday to everyone who has a birthday in July.

Remember, the day you were born God saw you and it was love at first sight!

Cheryl Ann

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He's at it again!



Ask Len to name the ladies – we're only jealous!

---o---

MY FRIEND

People come into your life for a reason, a season or a lifetime.

When you know which one it is, you will know what to do for that person.

When someone is in your life for a **REASON**, it is usually to meet a need you have expressed.

They have come to assist you through a difficulty, to provide you with guidance and support, to aid you physically, emotionally or spiritually. They may seem like a Godsend and they are.

They are there for the reason you need them to be.

Then, without any wrongdoing on your part or at an inconvenient time, this person will say or do something to bring the relationship to an end.

Sometimes they die. Sometimes they walk away.

Sometimes they act up and force you to take a stand.

What we must realize is that our need has been met, our desire fulfilled, their work is done.

The prayer you sent up has been answered and now it is time to move on.

Some people come into your life for a **SEASON**, because your turn has come to share, grow or learn.

They bring you an experience of peace or make you laugh.

They may teach you something you have never done.

They usually give you an unbelievable amount of joy.

Believe it; it is real, but only for a season.

LIFETIME relationships teach you lifetime lessons, things you must build upon in order to have a solid emotional foundation.

Your job is to accept the lesson, love the person and put what you have learned to use in all other relationships and areas of your life.

It is said that love is blind but friendship is clairvoyant.

Thank you for being a part of my life, whether you were a **REASON**, a **SEASON** or a **LIFETIME**.

A special thank you to Anne McCutcheon for the email

