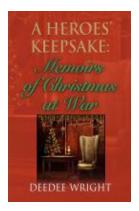
A HEROES' KEEPSAKE:

Memoirs of Christmas at War



DEEDEE WRIGHT



This keepsake is filled with Christmas stories throughout America's history at war. Most are written by brave soldiers who tell tales of Christmases far from home and void of festivities. Get to know these heroes through their stories. They have laid the footsteps our military sons and daughters follow today as they protect our freedom - freedom that includes our ability to celebrate the joyous season of Christmas.

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A Heroes' Keepsake

Memoirs of Christmas at War

by

Deedee Wright

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Preface

There's something I love about Christmas. Holiday cheer is infectious as we share a steamy cup of cocoa and freshly baked sugar cookies. Evergreens glisten with prudently placed twinkling lights. Department stores bustle with shoppers from Thanksgivings Friday through Christmas Eve while jingling bells provoke donations for those less fortunate. Carols and Manheim Steamroller permeate the air throughout the season. Oh yes, Christmas is filled with magic! Moreover, as young and old anticipate the arrival of good old Santa Claus, our heartstrings are tugged and eyes well with an unparalleled sense; much too difficult to phrase. Friends and family come together and good will abounds as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Sadly, however, not all of us are fortunate enough to join in such blessed festivities. Many, including our service members are unable to make the trip home; instead spending Christmas on the fronts of war. This keepsake is filled with their stories. Christmas stories of people and by service members who have firsthand experiences of Christmas away from home.

Following is a letter from a humble serviceman. He didn't leave his name, just, "a humble serviceman". He asked that it be shared for us to know who our service members are and why they do what they do. They are just like you and I; freedom loving Americans that want their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren to have the chance to enjoy simple and cherished freedoms and pleasures like a family Christmas. I hope this humble service man and this keepsake will inspire you to remember those who sacrifice for us; not only on Christmas day, but every day.

And so for you... a humble serviceman...

I know all too well what it is like to be away from home for so long –especially during the holidays.

I would like, however, to take this opportunity to thank you, and America, for being the fine, grand, noble Nation that makes each and every one of us out here serving in the military extremely proud of the country and the people we protect.

You don't necessarily have to pray for us soldiers, as we have chosen this life...and we will sacrifice our life for OUR people and OUR country. No, do not pray for us this holiday season...Pray for OUR Nation and Her people.....for only then will the life we 'chose' be worthwhile.

Yes, I do pray for peace on Earth...always. But, "there will be wars, and rumors of wars," so, in the meantime; maybe, just maybe, this year you can put out a suggestion to OUR American people.......

We tend to fly our flag on 4th of July, we tend to fly our flag on Veteran's Day.....maybe this year through your web-site, you could maybe ask the American people to put a small American Flag on their Christmas Tree, amongst the ornaments, (or within their own religious ceremony/custom) just to remember. A small reminder that we are free to celebrate whatever holiday, however we please, because of that flag and what She represents.

Ma'am, I have volunteered to protect ALL Americans... Christian, Jewish, Agnostic, even Atheist....it is my proud honor to do so...and all I ask is that maybe, during this "holiday" season (whether one believes in it or not) is your help in asking "America"

To wave Her flag in Unity and be thankful for our Grand Nation. It would mean a lot to us out here, wherever we are.....

"Santa don't cry, this life is my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more,

My life is my God, my country and my corps."

Memoirs of Christmas at War

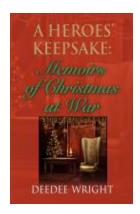
and with all due respects to the Major, I add....
America, my country-men
Our flag is our life......
We've accepted your ancestors
Through struggle, through strife...
We've come a long way,

Yes, a long way to go..... But we're out here defending, The life that you know, what you believe, Is not my concern I carry my weapon.... America learns..... I'm proud to serve you, Wherever I'm sent, For you are Americans From Allah to Lent And so my dear country-men, I ask of you this... Display our flag, And remember our bliss.... For I am out "here" On this Christmas Day.... And I want you proud...Long May She Wave..... Thank you, from, A service member (1)

A Heroes' Keepsake



George Washington and Marquis de Lafayette at Valley Forge. Black-and-white copy of John Ward Dunsmore's painting from c. 1909.



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