
NEWSLETTER

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AWD News and Other Things of Interest

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ONLY IN AMERICA:

Back in 1969 a group of Black Panthers decided that a black man named Alex Rackley needed to die. Rackley was a fellow Panther suspected of disloyalty. Rackley was first tied to a chair. Safely immobilized, his "friends" tortured him for hours by, among other things, pouring boiling water on him. When they got tired of torturing Rackley, Black Panther member Warren Kimbro took Mr. Rackley outside and put a bullet in his head. Rackley's body was found floating in a river about 25 miles north of New Haven, Conn.

Maybe at this point you're curious as to what happened to these Black Panthers.

Well, in 1977 (that's only eight years later) only one of the killers was still in jail. The shooter, Warren Kimbro, managed to get a scholarship to Harvard. He later became an assistant dean at Eastern Connecticut State College. Isn't this a great country, or what? As a 1960's radical you can pump a bullet into someone's head, and years later, in the same state, you can be an

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JUST PEDAL

At first I saw God as my observer, my judge, keeping track of the things I did wrong, so as to know whether I merited heaven or hell when I die. He was out there sort of like a president. I recognized his picture when I saw it, but I really didn't know Him. But later on, when I met God, it seemed as though life were rather like a bike ride, but it was a tandem bike, and I noticed that God was in the back, helping me pedal. I don't know when it was that He suggested that we change places, but life has not been the same since. When I had control, I knew the way. It was rather boring, but predictable. It was the shortest distance between two points. But when He took the lead, He knew delightful long cuts, up mountains, and through rocky places at breakneck speeds. It was all I could do to hang on! Even though it looked like madness, He said, "Pedal."

"I worried and was anxious and asked, "Where

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PAUL HARVEY

(Read this on his radio program)

For the life of me, I can't understand what could have gone wrong in Littleton, Colo. If only the parents had kept their children away from the guns, we wouldn't have had such a tragedy. Yeah, it must have been the guns.

It couldn't have been because of half our children being raised in broken homes.

It couldn't have been because our children get to spend an average of 30 seconds in meaningful conversation with their parents each day. After all, we give our children quality time.

It couldn't have been because we treat our children as pets and our pets as children.

It couldn't have been because we place our children in day care centers where they learn their

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assistant college dean! Only in America!

Ericka Huggins was the lady who served the Panthers by boiling the water for Mr. Rackley's torture. Some years later Ms. Huggins was elected to a California school board!

How in the world do you think that these killers got off so easy? Well, maybe it was in some part due to the efforts of two people who came to the defense of the Panthers. These two people actually went so far as to shut down Yale University with demonstrations in defense of the accused Black Panthers during their trial.

One of those people was none other than Bill Lan Lee. Mr. Lee or Mr. Lan Lee, as the case may be, isn't a college dean. He isn't a member of a California school board. He is the head of the U.S. Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. Lee is serving in that capacity illegally, by the way, but that's another story. Just another part of the Clinton saga of ignoring the rule of law.

O.K., so who was the other Panther defender? Is this other notable Panther defender now a school board member? Is this other Panther apologist now an assistant college dean? Nope....neither.

The other Panther defender was, like Lee, a activist, radical law student at Yale University at that time. She is now known as "The Smartest Woman in the World". She is none other than the First Lady (?) of the United States of America and the Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate from the State of New York ---- Our lovely First Lady, the incredible Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Great country, huh?



Received via e-mail from a friend.

"The money power preys upon the nation in times of peace and conspires against it in times of adversity. I see in the near future a crisis approaching that . . . causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. The money power of the country will endeavor to . . . work . . . upon the people, until the wealth is aggregated in a few hands, and the republic destroyed."

-Abraham Lincoln

There are those who believe that he was assassinated by "money power." and I am one of those believers AWT

are you taking me?

"He laughed and didn't answer, and I started to learn to trust. I forgot my boring life and entered into the adventure.

And when I'd say, "I'm scared." He'd lean back and touch my hand. He took me to people with gifts that I needed, gifts of healing, acceptance and joy. They gave me gifts to take on my journey, my higher powers and more. And we were off again.

He said, "Give the gifts away. They're extra baggage, too much weight." So I did, to the people we met, and I found that in giving I received, and still our burden was light. I did not trust Him, at first, in control of my life. I thought He'd wreck it; but he knows bike secrets, knows how to make it bend to take sharp corners, knows how to jump to clear high rocks, knows how to fly to shorten scary passage. And I am learning to shut up and pedal in the strangest places, and I'm beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face with God as my delightful constant companion. And when I'm sure I just can't do anymore, He just smiles and says, "Pedal."

Author is unknown.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

The Declaration of Independence, as the first document of our organic law, presents a spiritual formal statement of the relationship between God the Creator, the People and their government. People have God given rights and these rights are as permanent and glorious as only God can make them. When government stops protecting those rights it is the duty of the people to alter or abolish that government. The purpose of government is to protect and secure these Rights. Furthermore, if a form of government becomes destructive of the Rights of the People it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it. The statement of independence that was to announce the opening of formal hostilities with the world's greatest military power severed the connection with Great Britain.

By Ed Rivera, Attorney and Counselor At Law



Eighty nine percent of what we learn, we learn visually, ten percent through the ears, and one percent through the other senses.

socialization skills among their peers under the law of the jungle while employees who have no vested interest in the children look on and make sure that no blood is spilled.

It couldn't have been because we allow our children to watch, on average, seven hours of television a day filled with the glorification of sex and violence that isn't fit for adult consumption.

It couldn't have been because we allow (or even encourage) our children to enter into virtual worlds in which, to win the game, one must kill as many opponents as possible in the most sadistic way possible.

It couldn't have been because we have sterilized and contracepted our families down to sizes so small that the children we do have are so spoiled with material things that they come to equate the receiving of the material with love.

It couldn't have been because our children, who historically have been seen as a blessing from God, are now being viewed as either a mistake created when contraception fails or inconveniences that parents try to raise in their spare time.

It couldn't have been because we give two-year prison sentences to teenagers who kill their newborns.

It couldn't have been because our school systems teach the children that they are nothing but glorified apes who have evolutionized out of some primordial soup of mud.

It couldn't have been because we teach our children that there are no laws of morality that transcend us, that everything is relative and that actions don't have consequences. What the heck, the President gets away with it.

Nah, it must have been the guns.



Springs Of Benignity

"The water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water." John 4:14.

The Picture Our Lord gives is not that of a channel but a fountain. "Be being filled," and the sweetness of vital relationship to Jesus will flow out of the saint as lavishly as it is imparted to him. If you find your life is not flowing out as it should, you are to blame; something has obstructed the flow. Keep right at the Source, and-----you will be blessed personally? No, out of you will flow rivers of living water, irrepressible life.

We are to be centres through which Jesus can flow as rivers of living water in blessing to everyone. ↗

Some of us are like the Dead Sea, always taking in but never giving out, because we are not rightly related to the Lord Jesus. As surely as we receive from Him, He will pour out through us, and in the measure He is not pouring out, there is a defect in our relationship to Him. Is there anything between you and Jesus Christ? Is there anything that hinders your belief in Him? If not, Jesus says, out of you will flow rivers of living water. It is not a blessing passed on, not an experience stated, but a river continually flowing. Keep at the Source, guard well your belief in Jesus Christ and your relationship to Him, and there will be a steady flow for other lives, no dryness and no deadness.

Is it not too extravagant to say that out of an individual believer rivers are going to flow? "I do not see the rivers," you say. Never look at yourself from the standpoint of---Who am I? In the history of God's work you will nearly always find that it has started from the obscure, the unknown, the ignored, but the steadfastly true to Jesus Christ.

By Oswald Chambers

- Benignity* - 1. The quality or condition of being kind and gentle.
2. A kindly or gracious act.



ASSOCIATIONS

"Birds of a feather flock together. Kids that get good grades hang around with each other, and kids that get bad grades hang around with each other, and kids who get in trouble hang around with each other, and kids who do well hang around with each other. Where you go determines who you meet, and who you meet determines how you think, and how you think determines what you do, and what you do is what you become."

Just a few of the lessons taught to Dr. John Maxwell by his father Dr. M. Maxwell. I heard this on The cassette tape "PARENTING WITH LOVE" By Dr. John Maxwell that I purchased from Focus On The Family.

"Like liberty, gold never stays where it is undervalued."

-J. S. Morill

IF

If there is righteousness in the heart
there will be beauty in the character, and
if there is beauty in the character, there
will be there will be harmony in the home,
and if there is harmony in the home there
will be order in the nation, and if there is
order in the nation there will be peace in
the world.

Author is Unknown, Possibly, and most probably, Mother Teresa

When Mother Teresa received her Nobel Peace Prize Mother Teresa was asked what can we do to bring peace to the world? And Mother Teresa said go home and love your family.

This also came from the cassette tape "PARENTING WITH LOVE" By Dr. John Maxwell

SUCCESS

You can use most any measure
When you're speaking of Success
You can measure it in a fancy home,
Expensive car, or dress
But the measure of your real success
Is one you cannot spend
It's the way your son describes you
When he is talking to a friend

This came from the cassette tape "PARENTING WITH LOVE" ~By Dr. John Maxwell

**It's easy to like folk when they are
acting their best.**

**It takes patience and love when they
are acting anything less.**

~awd

Freedom

*Liberty is the only thing you cannot have
unless you are willing to give it to others.*

Liberty is defined as rights with responsibilities. Its opposite, License, is defined as rights with no responsibilities. Another word for License would be Anarchy, or a situation where there are no rules, rights, or privileges. The strong devour the weak; the powerful destroy the powerless. In the animal world, License is defined as "the Law of the jungle."

Those who love freedom must recognize that others have equal rights to their freedom as well, and that only by recognizing this fact will all be totally free. That means that all individuals must restrict their freedom to harm others, or none will be free to enjoy their rights to life, liberty and property.

The Creator of man laid down some guidelines about the rights of others. These guidelines are written in the negative in at least six of the Ten Commandments. The guideline is written "Thou shall not . . .," which means that all will be free if all men confine their activities to those which do not harm others.

America's founding fathers, when they wrote the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, also wrote their guidelines in the negative: "Congress shall pass no laws . . ." But these restrictions enable man to be freer because man's life would be free of governmental restraints.

Those who wrote the Constitution were concerned about the concept of equal rights. They were attempting to separate themselves from a monarchy as a form of government where certain individuals, the king and his court, had more rights than the common citizens. These individuals had superior rights because of their positions. Conversely, the common people had little if any rights. America's founding fathers were convinced that they would not allow this inequality to occur in this country as they wrote the founding documents.

They wrote it into the Constitution that all men were created equal, that the lowest had the same rights to Life, Liberty, and Property as did the highest. Modern man, through the misuse of government, passes laws to make men equal in all areas of their lives. This obvious misunderstanding of man's nature has caused much grief as long as man has been attempting to create government.

The solitary man, alone in his environment, need not concern himself with rights and the need to create

government to protect those rights. No one exists to plunder his goods or take his life. There is no need to protect his rights. They are secure.

It is only when another individual or groups of individuals join him in his solitary existence that concerns about rights become important.

Each of the inhabitants has an equal right to life, liberty and property. That right is protected as long as each inhabitant recognizes the equal right of the others. No individual nor any group of individuals has the right to take the life, liberty or property of another individual or group of individuals.

There is no question that any individual, or group of individuals, has the ability to violate the rights of any individual. The question being discussed here is whether or not the violator has the right to do so.

If each individual has the right to self-defense and each has it equally, then each individual has the right to pool his individual right with others so that all can protect their rights from those who come to violate all of their rights at the same time.

In other words, if each has the right individually, then all have the right collectively. Such collective poolings of individual rights to self defense are called governments.

Men create governments when they pool their individual rights to self defense to create an agency that has the collective right to protect both the individual and the collective body of individuals.

Men can only grant to government those rights they themselves have. If an individual does not have a right, it is not possible for that individual to grant that right to government. Government can only have those rights that each individual has.

By **A. Ralph Epperson** [THE UNSEEN HAND]



Cardinal's Dying Wish: Keep Clinton Out of St. Patrick's

NewsMax.com May 8, 2000

As Cardinal O'Connor battled brain cancer and faced death during the past eight months, he remained steadfast in his distaste of Bill Clinton.

A source close to the Cardinal tells NewsMax.com that O'Connor had a long-standing order to keep Bill Clinton out of St. Patrick's Cathedral – no matter how important the occasion.

Last week the White House announced that both Bill and Hillary Clinton would be attending the Cardinal's ↗

funeral mass at St. Patrick's, set for Monday afternoon.

"O'Connor would have gone berserk if he knew Clinton was coming," the source said.

O'Connor was said to be extremely hostile to Clinton, a man who annoyed him on several levels. O'Connor had been a veteran, a Navy Admiral who had served in the military and in the front lines of Vietnam.

Clinton's draft avoidance record didn't sit well with the Cardinal, nor did Clinton's corruption.

O'Connor was also annoyed with Clinton's strong advocacy of partial birth abortion – a procedure O'Connor likened to infanticide.

O'Connor's animus toward the president erupted after the crash of TWA Flight 800 in 1996.

In the days after the tragedy, Mayor Giuliani had organized a memorial service for the victims' families at JFK Airport.

Cardinal O'Connor was set to officiate, until he found out Clinton planned on attending.

"If Clinton is coming, you can count me out," O'Connor's office bluntly told the mayor's office.

Clinton was quickly disinvited.

A month or so after the crash, O'Connor hosted his own memorial mass at St. Patrick's for the victims. Clinton was in New York that weekend for a birthday party and the White House called the Archdiocese and asked if he could attend.

The answer from the Cardinal's Office was blunt: Bill Clinton is not welcome at St. Patrick's.



Guess What? The President and his wife were on the front row at St. Patrick's Cathedral for Cardinal O'Connor's funeral. What words could we use to describe the truth about that? Politics; Arrogance; Audacity; Gaucherie; Deception; Stupidity; Dumb; or just plain goofy? -Comment by -awd-

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A MAJOR PITFALL OF DEMOCRACY

**They called me mad, and I called them mad, and damn them, they outvoted me.
-Nathaniel Lee (on being consigned to a**

Clintons, Gores Humiliated at St. Patrick's

Monday May 8, 2000 8:32 p.m. EDT

President Clinton and his wife and Vice President Al Gore and his wife held St. Patrick's most coveted front-row seats at today's funeral Mass for John

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Howdy!

Howdy, I'm one of the newest additions to the Doudney Goat Farm. My name is Cricket Doudney Donkey, I'm a pure bred medium size Spotted Donkey and my first home was near a town called Omaha, Texas, located near the little city of Mt. Pleasant.

For those of you that don't know, the Doudney Goat Farm is located at Midway Texas. Midway acquired its name because it is on a divide of sorts. All the water to the north drains into the Red River, and all on the south drains into the Sulphur River, making this spot midway between the two rivers, thus the name Midway. I have gleaned this and other information from a former owner of the farm, none other than the Honorable Judge Larkin Gooch, PJP, a very genteel & kind man whom the boss affectionately refers as Uncle Larkin.

The Doudney Goat Farm is only a fraction of the 1300 original acres. This is the last 94 & 1/2 acres that belong to a direct descendent of George Jefferson Flippo the original Flippo owner.

George Jefferson Flippo moved to Texas sometime just after the War Between the States and purchased the thirteen hundred-acre farm for about 35 cents per acre. He paid the whole amount (455 US dollars) with gold bullion. George Jefferson Flippo divided the place into 47 & 1/4 acre portions and distributed it among his children as he saw fit. I'm not sure who got what where or when, but I'm working on that information, and you will be the first to know when I find out.

His son, Charles Richard Flippo, known as Charley Dick to most folks, ended up with more than two of the portions. It's not presently known exactly how he got them but it is believed that his father George Jefferson Flippo gave at least some of the land to him. At some point, Charlie Dick sold more than a hundred acres of the land to Judge Gooch, and his wife Texie Flippo Gooch, the youngest daughter of the late Charlie Dick Flippo. They later sold the farm to Evin Riley Doudney and his wife, Inez V. Flippo Doudney, who was the niece of Texie Gooch, granddaughter of the late Charlie Dick Flippo, and daughter of Texie's older brother, the late Hansford Flippo. Evin R Doudney gave the place to my boss Arnold Wayne Doudney, better known as AWD, shortly after the death of AWD's mother, Inez V. Flippo Doudney.

The story is most interesting from the get go, but I haven't learned everything there is to know yet, but I'm working on it every chance I get. Ask me sometime and I'll tell you all I know.

The main thing right now is that the boss loves 🐘

the place and will probably let me stay here forever. The Doudney Goat Farm has its current name because my boss AWD has installed a small herd of goats.

I have a job to do, and as long as I do it I'll have a place to live with plenty of grass or feed to eat and all the water I need to drink for the rest of my life.

It is my responsibility to guard the goats, which so far has been a real pleasure. I am not quite a year old and it isn't easy knowing exactly how to do what I'm supposed to be doing. I am supposed to keep the predators away from the goats, especially the younger kids and newborns. After losing two kids to coyotes the boss bought me hoping that I'd do the job, and so far so good, I have only lost three kids. I hope to get better at my job soon. The boss pulled on my ears after losing the third one. I really feel bad about the loss but what is a donkey to do? You know how goats are, they are usually a herd, but sometimes they refuse to stay in one herd, and end up in two and sometimes three different herds scattered all over the place. Hey, there's only one of me and a whole bunch of them!

By Cricket Doudney Donkey



HUMILIATED; Continued from page 5.

Cardinal O'Connor. But they were far from welcome and were caught in a very awkward situation during the service.

The Mass was celebrated by Cardinal Law of Boston, a close friend of O'Connor's. Law and another cardinal both told the overflow crowd that they had been given very specific instructions by Cardinal O'Connor as to what to say at his funeral Mass. O'Connor's wishes were reflected in a statement made by Law, who stated that the legacy of John O'Connor was an "unambiguous" pro-life message to the world.

Law's statement brought thunderous applause, followed by a standing ovation that lasted almost four minutes. (The major media are reporting it lasted a minute. Not true.) A Catholic priest seated next to the Clintons told NewsMax.com that the Clintons and the Gores did not clap after Law's comments. Their silence drew notice from some watchers in the crowd, and as the standing ovation continued minute after painful minute the Clintons and Gores remained seated. "It was clear they felt very uncomfortable," the priest said. After several minutes, the Clintons and Gores finally rose but refused to clap. The ovation soon ended.

Like they say in the Oil Field. "If your gonna' be DUMB, your gotta' be TOUGH!" -awd-

Funeral is today for Ila Loetscher, 'Texas' 'Turtle Lady'

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas -- Ila Loetscher, who earned the nickname "Turtle Lady" for her campaign to educate children about sea turtles, will be remembered Saturday at a funeral service in Pella, Iowa. She died earlier this week at age 95.

Officials with Sea Turtle Inc., the nonprofit organization Ms. Loetscher established in 1978, vowed to continued her mission of rescuing injured sea turtles and educating the public about their plight.

"We'll never be able to do it in her unique way, but we're out there trying to get her message across," said Mary Laddis, a longtime Sea Turtle volunteer.

"She was a beautiful person," said Ms. Loetscher's physician and friend Lorenzo Pelly, who met her 10 years ago. "I got to know her when I rescued three turtles that were going to end up as turtle soup. And I gave them to her and they grew to be bigger than me. She was a great human."

On a makeshift stage behind her beach house, Ms. Loetscher held twice-weekly "Turtle Talks," during which she would dress turtles in Maruichi costumes and ball gowns and hug and kiss them while chatting about their habits, history and habitat.

"I found out that is the only way --- by loving the turtles --- that I can show the children that turtles are worth loving. The little children are catching on real well," Ms. Loetscher once explained in a nature documentary.

She quit her turtle shows in 1997 when her health began to fail. She died of natural causes Tuesday in a Brownsville hospital, Ms Laddis said. In addition to Saturday's funeral, a memorial service on South Padre is planned but has not yet been scheduled.

Ms Loetscher was the daughter of a country doctor, and in 1929 she became the first woman to earn a pilot's license in Iowa. Ms Loetscher moved to South Padre Island after her husband died in 1955, and built a sturdy beach house behind the dunes facing the Gulf of Mexico.

"Although not a scientist per se, Ila probably recruited more people to sea turtle conservation than all the biologists combined because of her sincere interest and love for these animals," said Pat Burchfield, assistant director of the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville.

In 1962, Ms Loetscher and other volunteers successfully established a second nesting beach on

South Padre Island for the nearly extinct Kemp's Ridley sea turtle by transporting eggs from remote beaches in Mexico.

The primary nesting beach of the Ridley -- the smallest of all sea turtles and a species that nest almost exclusively in the gulf of Mexico -- was on the rugged Mexican coast north of Tampico, where turtle hunters had slaughtered them by the tens of thousands for their skin, meat and eggs.

"I was with her when the first batch of eggs hatched," recalled Don Hockaday, acting director of the University of Texas-Pan American Coastal Studies Laboratory. "Everybody was really thrilled to see those little [turtles] . . . hatching out of the sand and walking into the water.

"When she got interested in this, back in the '60s," he said, "people pretty much looked at sea animal without much interest or importance to them. That's all changed, and she was a major contributor to that."

Sea Turtle Inc., which has moved operations from Ms. Loetscher's beach house to a temporary facility, plans to construct a large turtle recovery, exhibit and education center on four acres next to the South Padre Island Convention Center, Ms. Laddis said.

"We are working hard to continue all the work that is her legacy to us all," she said. "We're looking forward to our expansion several years down the road."

My mother, Inez Doudney used to attend the Turtle Lady's show every summer when my mom and dad would spend a week or sometimes more on South Padre Island. If you were ever privileged enough to spend time down there with them you probably got to meet the Turtle Lady. I know that I did. -and-



Respect & Tender Admiration

By CPT Stephen R. Ellison, M.D.

I am a doctor specializing in Emergency Medicine in the Emergency Departments of the only two military Level One trauma centers. They are both in San Antonio, TX and they care for civilian emergencies as well as military personnel. San Antonio has the largest military retiree population in the world living here because of the location of these two large military medical centers. As a military doctor in training for my specialty I work long hours and the pay is less than glamorous. One tends to become jaded by the long hours, lack of sleep, food, family contact and the endless parade of human

Continued on page 8 column 1; See Respect

Respect; Continued from page 7,

suttering passing before you. The arrival of another ambulance does not mean more pay, only more work.

Most often it is a victim from a motor vehicle crash. Often it is a person of dubious character who has been shot or stabbed. With our large military retiree population it is often a nursing home patient. Even with my enlisted service and minimal combat experience in Panama prior to medical school, I have caught myself groaning when the ambulance brought in yet another sick, elderly person from one of the local retirement centers that cater to military retirees. I had not stopped to think of what citizens of this age group represented.

I saw Saving Private Ryan. I was touched deeply. Not so much by the carnage in the first 30 minutes but by the sacrifices of so many. I was touched most by the scene of the elderly survivor at the graveside asking his wife if he'd been a good man. I realized that I had seen these same men and women coming through my Emergency Dept and had not realized what magnificent sacrifices they had made. The things they did for me and everyone else who has lived on this planet since the end of that conflict are priceless. Situation permitting I now try to ask my patients about their experiences. They would never bring up the subject without the inquiry. I have been privileged to an amazing array of experiences recounted in the brief minutes allowed in an Emergency Dept encounter. These experiences have revealed the incredible individuals I have had the honor of serving in a medical capacity, many on their last admission to the hospital.

There was a frail, elderly woman who reassured my young enlisted medic trying to start an IV line in her arm. She remained calm and poised despite her illness and the multiple needle-sticks into her fragile veins. She was what we call a "hard stick." As the medic made another attempt I noticed a number tattooed across her forearm. I touched it with one finger and looked into her eyes. She simply said "Auschwitz." Many of later generations would have loudly and openly berated the young medic in his many attempts. How different was the response from this person who'd seen unspeakable suffering.

A long retired Colonel who as a young USN officer had parachuted from his burning plane over a Pacific island held by the Japanese. Now an octogenarian, his head had been cut in a fall at home where he lived alone. His CT scan and suturing had been delayed until after midnight by the usual parade of ↗

high priority ambulance patients. Still spry for his age, he asked to use the phone to call a taxi to take him home; and then he realized his ambulance had brought him without his wallet. He asked if he could use the phone to make a long distance call to his daughter who lived 70 miles away. With great pride we told him that he could not as he'd done enough for his country and the least we could do was get him a taxi home, even if we had to pay for it ourselves. My only regret was that my shift wouldn't end for several hours and I couldn't drive him myself.

I was there the night MSG Roy Benavidez came through the Emergency Dept for the last time. He was very sick. I was not the doctor taking care of him but I walked to his bedside and took his hand. I said nothing. He was so sick he didn't know I was there. I'd read his Congressional Medal of Honor citation and wanted to shake his hand. He died a few days later.

The gentleman who served with Merrill's Marauders, the survivor of the Baatan Death March, the survivor Omaha Beach, the 101 year old World War I veteran, the former POW held in frozen North Korea, the former Special Forces medic now with non-operable liver cancer, the former Viet Nam Corps Commander. I remember these citizens. I may still groan when yet another ambulance comes in but now I am much more aware of what an honor it is to serve these particular men and women. I am angered at the cut backs, implemented and proposed, that will continue to decay their meager retirement benefits.

I see the President and Congress who would turn their back on these individuals who've sacrificed so much to protect our liberty. I see later generations that seem to be totally engrossed in abusing these same liberties won with such sacrifice. It has become my personal endeavor to make the nurses and young enlisted medics aware of these amazing individuals when I encounter them in our Emergency Dept. Their response to these particular citizens has made me think that perhaps all is not lost in the next generation.

My experiences have solidified my belief that we are losing an incredible generation and this nation knows not what it is losing. Our uncaring government and ungrateful civilian populace should all take note. We should all remember that we must "Earn this."

"No man's property is safe while Congress is in session." -Mark Twain

Education makes people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave. -Henry Peter Brougham