

## MEMORIAL DAY 2011

*“This story is about time and memories”, from the prologue of ‘We were Soldiers once...and young’. (LGen.Harold Moore(ret) and Joseph Galloway) –a memorial to those who died in the Ia Drang Valley and environs, Vietnam, November, 1965-two battalions of the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry facing over 2000 of the North Vietnamese regulars....Gary Owens, Custer and Little Big Horn and thousands of Indians, in retrospect.*

*Most of us who served and fought in our wars wanted to perform well for in the final analysis it is really you or me who must live with ourselves, often a defining moment of our lives. WWII, Korea and Vietnam, now the Gulf Wars come to mind, and only recently we laid to rest our last WWI soldier. The sound of the trumpet, mellow, inspiring and haunting.*

*Memorial Day was coincidental yet appropriate to our time and memories –remembered in origin-flowers laid on the fallen of Union and Confederate forces, first by Southern ladies, then followed by others, now a national day of remembrance on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May.*

*We who went to war in WWII were sustained by music, memories, patriotism and those we left behind. Recently, Honor Flights-a thank you-for WWII service-flew many to Washington DC and environs to pay tribute to Memorials, WWII, Korea and Vietnam and the climax of a wonderful day: the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry in continuous vigil at the Tombs of the Unknown Soldiers, Arlington.*

*Time and memories...and we were there.*

*“I’ll be seeing you in all the old and familiar places while my heart embraces all day through. In a small café, a park across the way, a carousel, a Chestnut Tree, a wishing well.....And I’ll be seeing you in every bright and summer day, and I’ll always think of you this way...I’ll find you in the morning sun, but when the day is through,I’ll be looking at the moon but I’ll be seeing you.”*

*“God favors the bold and strong of heart.”*