

## My Home of Granite

I now live in this place of honor  
A place of peace where all can share their inter-thoughts;  
Many pray in silence while standing near my home of stone.

I see those who come to share a thought  
While some make the trip every year just to have a talk,  
Others bring a special gift to place beneath the Wall.

I just saw a man with a starched white collar  
I knew him many years ago.  
He always spoke of peace and never liked the war  
Now he visits his son who died a medic saving many lives.

Down a panel or two  
A widow stands quietly in silence,  
For the husband she lost so many years ago.

Here comes a General  
His stars glistening in the sun  
He offers a silent prayer and a simple  
Semper Fi  
He removes the Four Stars that he proudly wears,  
And attaches them to a note;  
He honors the Marines he lost in battle.

A Marine salutes and falls upon his knees,  
I hear him whisper,  
"I'm sorry I wasn't there."  
He leaves our home in tears  
His life forever changed.

All these heroes sacrificed their lives,  
Live with me within this wall of stone.  
We swore an oath to protect and serve  
With loyalty and pride  
We understood the cost, to protect our way of life  
And now you'll find our names in rows  
In this place we all call home.

When you choose to leave this hallowed ground  
Please offer this very simple Prayer

"God grant them everlasting peace."

***Dedicated to my childhood friend:  
PFC David Winder US Army  
KIA May 1970 Quang Ngai  
Panel 10W – R037  
Medal of Honor***

***Thomas P. Lee  
Sgt. USMC 64-67  
Body Bearers***

**Marine Barracks Washington DC**