

Corporal William J. Geasley
Korean Conflict
1952

*Nations, united as one
 against a system that would
 sooner profit itself
 than come to the aid of its
 people.*

*A soldier.
 a prayer on his lips,
 a pretty smile in his pocket,
 a steady hand,
 a faith unwavering,
 a noble notion in his heart.*

*A battle for peace.
 The shouting of both familiar
 voices and foreign
 tongues, indistinguishable in the
 smoke, the
 shots, the
 shattering.*

*A household.
 Willing to give.
 Living to love.
 Running those streets right
 alongside him.*

*A people.
 Confidence.
 Security.
 Resolution.*

Major Theodore William Geasley
Global War on Terror
2003

*One nation, united
 against those who would slaughter
 innocent people for
 no reason apart from simple
 hate.*

*A pilot.
 a hymn on his breath,
 a lovely face on the HUD,
 a fresh determination,
 a love unfaltering,
 a cry for justice burning in his chest.*

*A flight for freedom.
 Defying the very laws
 of gravity. Part man, part
 machine. In the center of the
 fear, the
 fog, the
 fire.*

*A family.
 Serving with hope.
 Walking in courage.
 Proud of a sacrifice that
 gives others life.*

*A country.
 One nation.
 Indivisible.
 United.*

My Military Hero isn't any single person. Instead, I look to a *legacy* of heroes. Because both my father and grandfather lived their lives in active service to our country, my entire family has been affected. There isn't one of us who doesn't realize the incredible sacrifice made by members of the Armed Forces and their families- because we've lived that very same challenge. I am proud to see not only my Dad and Papa, but also my uncle and cousins give everything they have to the United States of America. They may all serve in different ways, but each of them serves for the same reasons – family and freedom, life and laughter, trust and truth. And, as a member of this family, I am proud to be part of that very same legacy. The men in my family inspire me to emulate the same characteristics they show in combat in my everyday life. I want to be just as strong, just as brave, and just as dedicated in everything I do. What I am, and what I strive to be, is all because of the Geasley men – my heroes.