

Called to Put Their "Boots to the Floor"

Lillian Robertson

The call goes out and they rise
 To the call of duty,
The defense of this great nation
 Our America – land of freedom.

The men in blue with cocky white
 Hats – with wide pant legs
They sail our seas and
 Some go to their rest in the deep.

The men in khakis so young and
 Innocent – what is war?
They've never seen it before
 But still they raise their hand and
Pledge allegiance to this U.S.A.
 And they are so proud.

The men with the aviator caps and
 Wings on their chests
Look to the blue above.
 They will meet fierce battles up there
Where the crack of a bullet
 Could end it all.

The men in blue as dark as night
 With red stripe down their legs
Are supposed to be the hardest of all—
 A saber at their sides and a glint in their eyes
Solemn faces covering their fear with
 Defiance.

Off they go with dreams of home –
 Each carrying a picture of a girl – family.
No thoughts of the terrible fate
 That could be theirs.
Never to return to home, except in a box,
 But no, they must not think of this.
They come from a nation that believes they can do it all.

I will be with my buddies – die with them,
 Carry their bodies – this is the hell of war.
I'm too young to die in war.
 I've so much to do.
So why? We do because we believe
 In duty, honor, bravery and,
Especially home –
 AMERICA!

-Lillian Robertson, 2008

Lillian Robertson is a member of the JPHS. A native of Chicago, Illinois, she married and moved to Murray where she was a nurse for over 17 years. Her husband, Flavil M. Robertson served as Murray's Fire Chief for 20 years. Now widowed, Mrs. Robertson enjoys her children, grandchildren, church activities, genealogy research, and writing poetry.