

The poem below was written by an MIAP Escort Rider that attended our MIAP service at the Northern California State Veterans Cemetery at Igo on January 23, 2008.

Missing in America

Emotions surround on me this day of despair
At the Veterans memorial, sorrow wafts in the air
We honor five soldiers and lay them to rest
The armed forces tribute for America's best.

Their comrades escort them to this hallowed place
A disciplined march, in synchronized pace.
Seven Honor Guard set, arms shouldered to fire
Three shots will ring out, all meant to inspire

Each volley thunders as it moves through my soul
The flood in my eyes, I no longer control.
Softly, the bugle mourns one final song
Taps for these men, their day is now done.

As I hold my flag high, to honor these men
My heart starts to ache for what gathered us in.
The journey each took to this final place
Is unbearably sad and should cause us disgrace.

Missing in Action, we all know this phrase
A price our men pay for defending our ways.
But missing at home, these men should not bear
Being left on a shelf with no one to care.

Their families are absent, they don't know we're here
They've left these men stranded, year after year.
On funeral home shelves, their fate left unknown
So our mission won't end, till all are brought home

We'll honor their service and life since the war
And place them with God to rest evermore.
Old Glory is folded and placed at their side
We'll remember forever, Americas Pride

Missing in America, a project held dear
Will find all these men and see them brought here
They defended this Nation with courage and grit
We owe it to them to never forget

-- Don Blair --