

## THE WAY WE WERE (World War II, Korea and Vietnam)

by the late Past Post 944 Commander - Fred Hughes (1999)

We laughed and played and were a little naughty,  
We were in school and it was nineteen forty.

We sang with Crosby, danced with Astaire,  
We did the jitterbug with such a flair.

Then Pearl Harbor became the date to remember,  
It was war on that seventh day of December.

We left our youth and loved ones home,  
When we crossed over the sea and foam.

Many of our comrades lost their lives,  
They never met their future wives.

But we were lucky and returned alive,  
For it was all over in forty five.

We played again and continued drinking,  
Then we matured and started thinking.

We married our loved ones and it was nifty,  
For all of a sudden it was nineteen fifty.

These five short years and a world away  
In Korea the grip of war held sway,  
We sent good men and some survived,  
And some good men were lost and died.

The joy of our children perked up our lives,  
Our routine was many nine to fives.

We bought houses and made them homes,  
They were ours except for the loans.

Our kids grew up in sixty and seventy  
Life was good, it was full of plenty.

These kids were faced with a different test.  
Here Vietnam jungles took some of our best.

It was nineteen eighty when we were had  
When adults were calling us "Gran' Dad."

The nineties produced a lot of graying,  
A lot of "taps" they started playing.

While life is measured in many years  
Death ends it with too many tears.

But why should you have all this sorrow  
When we all will meet again tomorrow.

Weep for yourself but not for me  
For I am back with God for eternity.

With all my love  
For now from above