



PM

If  
any of you have ever been to a military  
funeral in which taps was played;  
this brings out a new meaning of it.



Here  
is something Every American should know. Until I  
read this , I didn't know , but I checked it out  
and it's true:

We  
in the United States have all heard  
the haunting song , 'Taps.' It's the song that  
gives us the lump in our throats and usually  
tears in our eyes.



But ,  
do you know the story behind the song? If  
not , I think you will be interested to find out  
about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly ,  
it all began in 1862 during the Civil War ,  
when Union Army  
Captain Robert Ellicombe was with  
his men near Harrison's Landing in  
Virginia . The Confederate Army was  
on the other side of the narrow strip of land.



During  
the night , Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of  
a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field.  
Not knowing if it was a Union  
or Confederate soldier , the Captain  
decided to risk his life and bring the stricken  
man back for medical attention. Crawling on his  
stomach through the gunfire , the Captain reached  
the stricken soldier and began pulling him  
toward his encampment.

When  
the Captain finally reached his own lines , he  
discovered it was actually a Confederate  
soldier , but the soldier was dead.

The  
Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his  
breath and went numb with shock. In the  
dim light , he saw the face of the soldier. It  
was his own son. The boy had been studying music  
in the South when the war broke out.  
Without telling his father , the boy  
enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The  
following morning , heartbroken , the father asked  
permission of his superiors to give his son a  
full military burial , despite his enemy status.  
His request was only partially granted.

The  
Captain had asked if he could have a group of  
Army band members play a funeral dirge for his  
son at the funeral.

The  
request was turned down since the soldier was a  
Confederate.

But ,  
out of respect for the father , they did say they  
could give him only one musician.



The  
Captain chose a bugler. He asked the  
bugler to play a series of musical notes he had  
found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the  
dead youth's uniform.

This  
wish was granted.

The  
haunting melody , we now know as 'Taps' used  
at military  
funerals was born.

The  
words are:

Day is done.  
Gone the sun.  
From the lakes  
From the hills.  
From the sky.  
All is well.  
Safely rest.  
God is nigh.

Fading light.  
Dims the sight.  
And a star.  
Gems the sky.  
Gleaming bright.  
From afar.  
Drawing nigh.

Falls the night.

Thanks and praise.

For our days.  
Neath the sun  
Neath the stars.  
Neath the sky  
As we go.  
This we know.  
God is nigh



I  
too have felt the chills while listening to  
'Taps' but I have never seen all the words to  
the song until now. I didn't even know  
there was more than one verse . I also  
never knew the story behind the song and I  
didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd  
pass it along.

I  
now have an even deeper respect for the song  
than I did before.

Remember  
Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their  
Country.



Also  
Remember Those Who Have Served And Returned; and  
for those presently serving in the Armed  
Forces.



Please  
send this on after a short prayer.

Make  
this a Prayer  
wheel for our soldiers....please  
don't break it .

I  
didn't!

