



ED BURKHALTER CHAPTER DOTHAN, ALABAMA



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Presidents Message



MG Roger Peterson ,

For All of Those That Had To Remain Behind

To wait . . . to worry . . . to cry

Honoring all of the men and women in the military uniforms of our great country is something we all are proud to do on every occasion. But, what about the girls, wives, daughters, young sons, grandparents – brothers and sisters? What about all those who had to stay behind when the soldiers marched off to foreign lands? Should they

not be honored for keeping the home, the farm, the factory humming with full productivity? Did they not have to wait without knowing the health and well being of their loved one? Was worrying their constant companion until the safe return of their son, sister or father. What about those who received the dreaded news that they would never again see their loved one.

Let us pause then . . . and express our love, thanks and prayers to all those who had to stay behind.

During World War I, somewhere in the middle of Poland a young German sentry was dreaming of home. Hans Leip imagined that two of his girl friends were standing with him under the lamp of the barrack gate. He hummed a tune in a lonely moment. In 1941 Radio Belgrade broadcast the tune. It traveled the airwaves from London to North Africa. It was sung by all sides – the Germans, the British, the Americans, the Russians. Each army was singing the same song in their own language. Over time, Lili and Marlene became one person. In English the song goes like this:

Underneath the lantern by the barrack gate

Darling, I remember you used to wait

'Twas there you whispered tenderly

That you lov'd me; you'd always be

My Lili of the lamplight, My own Lili Marlene

The song was taken up by Marlene Dietrich and brought to great popularity when it was later recast in the 1950's by Johnny Mercer as *Falling Leaves*.

The falling leaves drift by the window
The autumn leaves of red and gold
I see your lips, the summer kisses
The sunburned hands I used to hold
Since you went away, the days grow long,
And soon I will hear old winter's song
But I miss you most of all, my darling
When autumn leaves start to fall.

May the Lord bless and keep all those who had to stay behind. Our great country was massively enriched by your spirit and your love.

Thank you . . . from a once lonely airman.

Roger Peterson

Quarterly Dinner Meeting

This quarterly dinner meeting will be held on August 5, 2008 at the Dothan Golf and Hotel Club.

Times

6:00 –6:45 Social Hour

6:45 –Dinner

Menu

Roast Beef / Baked Chicken

Vegetable Medley

Fried Corn

Mashed Potatoes

Salad/Dessert / Coffee/Tea

The guest speaker will be Houston County Commission Chairman, Mark Culver.

Make your reservation with **Bette Fricke –794-5474, Bud Bender –794-3902 or Selden Bailey –792-5037.**

If you need to cancel, do so 24 hours in advance. You will be responsible for payment if not canceled early.

\$25 Per Couple—\$12.50 Single.