Veteran's Day Salute

by James H. Cavanaugh

To all who become soldiers and defend the USA

Those that risk life and limb fighting for the American way

They that go through living hell, changing them forever

We bestow our heartfelt thanks for their great endeavors

To men and women laid to rest under foreign sands

And those missing in action for whom we've scoured the lands

To the gallant sailors upon ships riding the ocean waves

And those that sank down to the depths to their watery graves

To pilots coursing through the air risking their very lives

Hurling death to our enemies from unfriendly skies

To those who work in special ops instilling fear upon our foes

And those in logistics, keeping our military on their toes

To those who guard our shoreline from sea to shining sea

And staffers training our military to be the best that they can be

To military doctors and medics working the battle lines

Army engineers and machinists solving problems in the knick of time

To the mighty Marines, the first engaged in many battles

To the Army artillery whose barrages the enemy rattles

To known and unknown heroes who gave their all for freedom's way

With great dignity we honor you upon this Veteran's Day