

## Judy Gorman King Benefit Information

Event- "A Night at The Factory"

Place- Jamison Hall at The Factory

Date- Thursday June 19, 2008 (my birthday)

Time- 6:00-9:00 PM

Tickets- \$30

Entertainment- Leipers Fork Bluegrass

Jimmy Barret – (opening act for LeAnn Rimes, Gretchen Wilson...)

Leslie Satcher- (written for George Strait, Reba McEntire, Vince Gill...)

Special guests to make a songwriter's round

To pay expenses for a Vietnam delegation with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (The Wall) for myself, my brother Dwight Gorman (three tour Vietnam Veteran) and his wife Linda Gorman

I wrote a poem called "The Spirit of The Wall" and have had the honor to perform it here at veteran's events, also in Washington DC for the last six Rolling Thunder Memorial Day events and November 2007 I was asked to perform it as part of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "The Wall"

Now I have been asked to go on this delegation. The delegation is to bring healing between two countries once torn apart by war. We will meet with JPAC- Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command the group that is finding the remains of our military left behind after the war and bringing them home for burial and with Project RENEW. Project Renew looks for and removes unexploded land mines. The delegation is from August 1-10 2008 and will tour the entire country of Vietnam.

For ticket information call (615) 584-1759 or email [kingfieldpoet@yahoo.com](mailto:kingfieldpoet@yahoo.com)

To make a donation you can send it to Regions Bank 120 5th Ave N Franklin TN 37064.

The account name is Judy Gorman King- Vietnam delegation

After all expenses are paid any remaining money in the account will be sent to the

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (The Wall)

### **About the trip**

It is an official delegation with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. It is August 1-10.

We will be touring the entire country. It is being billed as a way to bring healing between two countries once at war.

There is a meeting planned with JPAC- Joint POW/ MIA Accounting Command. This is the organization that locates and identifies remains of military personnel not accounted for from the war. This is an official briefing.

We will also meet with Project RENEW. This is the organization that finds and disarms unexploded land mines left behind after the war.

There is also a dedication of a technical school that was built by funds raised by two Vietnam veterans that went on an earlier delegation. The school is for rehabilitation of citizens that have been injured by land mines.

It is a worthwhile trip and I have always wanted to go there. I also think it will be a healing experience for my brother to go there again and this time not be shot at.

**Judy Gorman King  
The Kingfield Poet**

The Vietnam War was always there during my childhood and growing up years. The French suffered loss there in May 1954 and I was born the next month. Although the first date on The Wall is 1959 the first death is 1957 when I was three.

I remember body counts filling my TV at night. I had two brothers in the Army during Vietnam. My brother Garland Gorman served stateside. My brother Dwight Gorman served twenty years with three tours being in Vietnam.

My friend Joanne Martin King wasn't as lucky as I was. Her brother Danny G Martin was KIA on December 1, 1969. His name is on Panel 15W Line 13. I witnessed the pain and pride of this family.

In the fall of 1997 the VFW in Dickson Tennessee brought "The Wall". I went to see Danny's name and the next day the poem came. I wrote it in less than ten minutes and did not rewrite a word. I believe that God gave it to me and allowed me to get the blessings from it.

It has appeared in many newspapers and newsletters. Hundreds of thousands of copies have been given away. The actual count is uncertain because many veterans have asked to make copies for friends and family. I have performed it at many veterans' events in Tennessee and seven times in Washington DC (6 times with Rolling Thunder and at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial). 2008 will make my sixth Rolling Thunder.

Recently I was named a “Kentucky Colonel” and this summer I have been asked to go on a delegation to Vietnam. All of this is possible because God gave me some words. Many veterans have told me how much I have blessed them but I always tell them that they got it backwards. I am the one that has truly been blessed by meeting and getting to know them.

I am now in fundraising mode to pay expenses to go to Vietnam. I have some great friends and family that help me with my expenses to veterans’ events but this time I need all the help I can get. I need your help.

# The Spirit of the Wall

You came to see my name today  
I saw you standing there  
Man, you sure look different  
With that silver in your hair

But me, I haven't changed  
I'm still the ripe old age of 21  
That's one of the things about us ghosts  
We're now and forever young

Do you remember how proud we were  
When we were called by Uncle Sam?  
And I remember being a little afraid  
When they shipped us to Vietnam

And I remember the heat  
And the marching through the mud  
And the sounds of all that shooting  
And the sight of all that blood

Then I remember when it was  
Time for us to go home  
But I couldn't go  
So you made that trip alone

You returned to a country  
That couldn't seem to understand  
How all the boys that left  
Came back a bunch of messed up men

Our country seemed a little naive  
Before that mixed up war  
Now we never can seem  
To get things back the way they were before

Now some of us are just a name  
Just a small part of history  
But with the building of that wall  
It somehow restored our dignity

I saw that there is still pain  
Even after all these years  
I'm afraid I saw a lot of  
Bitterness in your tears

But this is a wall of love  
We hope that's what everyone feels  
And the warm spirits of all the ones  
That surround "The Wall That Heals"

I saw you had a family  
A couple of kids and a pretty wife  
Try to forgive the past  
And have a happy life

I guess I'll go now  
That I seem to have said it all  
Think of me once in a while  
The ghost that stays with "The Wall"

*Judy Gorman King*