

Survivors

by Mike Harris

The subject being addressed is the word "Veterans," and a definition is in order. Without the "s" the word can be either an adjective or a noun, as it refers to the name of a group of individuals who are designated under the heading of "Veterans." For my take of the subject "Survivors" will better suit and can stand as my title.

There are as many types of veterans as there are causes and confrontations. I assume that the intention was to shed some light on the veterans of the last conflicts of World War Two and the subsequent wars still in progress on the planet, which politics and the media have of late highlighted. Since I am considered a Certified Veteran of World War Two, I feel that I have the right to voice an opinion.

First I do not feel that what I was a part of made me anyone special. A terrible wrong was taking place and my country perceiving the consequences decided to put a stop to it. With the overwhelming force of armament production we shortly brought this war to an end. While our technical ability was great our political savvy was not a match. The result of our inability to handle the victory is what we are paying for today. In our excitement over the victory our politicians missed the boat and the resulting chaos is plaguing us to this day.

Many who helped bring World War Two to an end were injured, and as a result of the mishandling of the victory, others were also injured and anything we are able to do to help them is an obligation not to be abandoned. However our riding on the coat tails of this obligation is not quite right. Let us desist and get on with our normal independent lives. If anything should be done I believe that the profits of the participating armament industries that are perpetuating the present conflicts should be looked at critically.

I am just one individual, but perhaps my voice added to those of others can make a difference. I hope so!