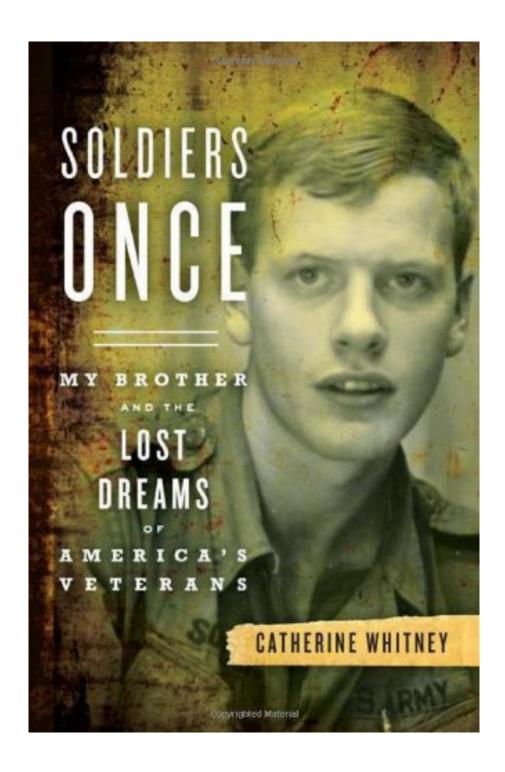


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From Publishers Weekly

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Review

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Catherine Whitney's brother, Vietnam veteran Jim Schuler, died at just fifty-three years old, while living in a flophouse. It had been sixteen years since, in one of his drunken rages, he had last seen his family. He was one of countless veterans who never recovered from the trauma of war and the stress of returning to live in a country that didn't care about his pain.

The story of what happened to Whitney's brother resonates with humanity and has a clear relevance to current national concerns. Soldiers Once puts a very human face on veterans' policies, finding in Whitney's personal drama a broader significance. It is both an investigation into her brother's loss and a meditation on the lost dreams of our military brotherhood.

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• Dimensions: 1.00" h x 6.10" w x 9.30" l, .95 pounds

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About the Author

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Most helpful customer reviews

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful.

Great Insights!

By W.H. McDonald Jr.

Author Catherine Whitney has given this world an inspired and insightful look at veterans. In her book, "Soldiers Once", she uses her experiences and the emotional issues she had from her brother's life and death, as a vehicle for giving us a larger understanding of veterans. She may have been motivated in the beginning, to search and gain a better understanding of her brother's war experiences and why he was like he was when he came back home. However, in the end, she discovers a much greater voice for others and opens the door for many like herself.

The book is moving and emotionally honest. I found that her personal journey of trying to understand what happened to her brother should resonate for so many others. She digs up the emotional ghosts and visits the past, as she moves the reader spiritually forward as she grows more aware of what many veterans had to deal with and still do.

The book would make a thoughtful gift to anyone who has a veteran in their family that is dealing with PTSD, or other issues related to war. I believe she will gain overwhelming support from veterans like myself, who found this work to be a meaningful and significant contribution to a short list of books which treat veterans with the respect and dignity that have earned. She has honored not only her brother but many other veterans and for this alone the book would have had my personal endorsement. The book is well written, thoughtful, sensitive and avoids all those pit falls of many self-serving non-fictional book. This book will be a positive force in the healing of others.

I give this book The Military Writer's Society of America's high book rating of Five Stars!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Jim Schuler

By k Saba

A Soldier Once is a sad tribute to Jim Schuler who fought for his country in Vietnam. The book explains the conflicts the war caused in families during that 60's and 70's.

The author's current political positions distracted me from the story of her brother, Jim Schuler, who had many fine qualities. Unfortunately, Jim Schuler isolated himself from other people and did not reach out to his family, who would have helped him if he had given them a chance. His neighbors, who cared for him were also excluded from his life.

I would like to have known more about Jim Schuler. Did he receive help from other veterans? The author could have interviewed more people who knew Jim and spent less time focused on her political agenda.

The author may get some answers from publishing this book. I hope for more closure for her and her family.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

An eye opener

By Thomas Gruenewald

I am of the generation that did not serve in the military: post-Korea, pre-Viet Nam. My experience with the soldier's life is very limited. This book is a real eye-opener and should be required reading for those who don't know, for those who did know and have forgotten, and for those who know and do nothing.

More than an expose of the neglect of returning military men and women, Soldiers Once reads as a gripping search by a woman for her brother. And on this journey, Whitney discovers as much about herself as she does her brother. Rarely have I read a book so informative and moving.

See all 8 customer reviews...

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