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*If Veterans don't help Veterans, who will?*

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## Still Clueless After All These Years

In the awkward time  
Before my prime,  
I would not balk  
To make some talk  
On hows,whys or whats  
From soup to nuts  
Unless...  
A liked girl involved.  
A mystery unsolved.

~

Thus it went  
For many a year,  
And in memory  
I hear the mocking  
Of Dennis's voice  
In my ear,  
"What're you going  
To talk about, Ger?  
The weather?"

~

It was the hit  
Of the pledges' skit  
For one fall class  
A running gag to pass  
The time between scenes  
In Laugh-In mode,  
And the kid careens  
From girl to girl  
No date to be made.

~

There was that Homecoming night.  
After classes a mad flight  
Home to bathe and change.  
No warning of the strange.  
Through rush hour traffic  
The whole length of town  
With reservations and tickets  
For her in her gown.

But at the door she said  
She'd stay home instead.  
Back in the car  
Sitting there stunned;  
She ran out the door  
To the mailbox, then me.  
"And you can keep  
Your damn flowers too."

~

The sting's long gone  
From her rant on the lawn.  
Yet I still wonder why  
I was so shunned.

~ Gerald Alan Ney ~