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Sunrise Drive Elementary School, Mrs. Kearney 5th Grade Class

My War Hero

I knew a tiny bit about the Vietnam War, but after I interviewed my war hero I had learned a whole lot more. My war hero is one of my uncles and he fought to keep our country safe. I usually play a lot of games that involve pretending to be a part of war, but after the interview I learned that gaming war is much less frightening than real war. My uncle Peter is brave and he is my war hero.

At age twenty-one my uncle Peter joined the army, he got drafted and served for two years. He trained in different places such as South Carolina and Louisiana. In these places he trained for six months. After his training was complete he got two weeks off for some rest and relaxation, once his two weeks was over uncle Peter went to Vietnam for a year.

I knew my uncle would experience things that I could not imagine but some of the things he told me I could not believe. I had always thought you would know what to expect after all that training but according to my uncle he was not too sure what to expect when getting to Vietnam but like most soldiers he learned how to adapt. He quickly became the point man for three months and carried different types of weapons. He carried an M-16 assault rifle, a pistol and grenades. What surprised me the most was that they didn't use tanks, instead they only walked everywhere! I also learned that after his year in Vietnam he was not done serving yet. It was his job to go to soldiers funerals and complete the twenty-one gun salute.

While he was in Vietnam he made a lot of friends and he even got to travel to Bangkok! After two years he got to come home and he got to marry his girlfriend who he had known before going to Vietnam. He got married very soon after getting home from Vietnam but before that he wanted to treat

himself, so with the money the army paid him he went and bought a Camaro. He also made sure to get himself an Italian hero as the first thing to eat when he got home.

My uncle is my hero, he served our country but to this day he still donates lots of money to different groups of veterans associations. Reflecting on his life he is proud of serving his country. Being born in Italy not America he came here at age nine and could not speak English. He was drafted in to the Italian army but renounced his citizenship and became an American citizen. He has no regrets about going to war, and would do it all again. From fighting in the war he has become more understanding about life. After asking him for some advice he said that all young adults should enter the military today once you turn twenty years old and serve for two years by doing that we would have a different generation of kids. He was a great soldier and is a great uncle no matter what he'll always be there for you and that my friends is why my uncle is my military hero.