

AN AMERICAN SOLDIER

*Our soldier is a special breed.
He is one who will fight for his own survival in the Battle of
Life.
He is the one who will fight for his country in the Battle of
Earth.
He is the one who is often alone with his ideas, his vivid war
memories.
He is the one who sometimes shares those war memories — bits
and pieces — with his children, but more often keeps them to
himself.
He is the one who will give all he's got — to keep all he has.
He is technically minded as to the operation of weapons,
strategies of war.
Yet, he is attuned to the basic facts of existence — Life and
Death.
Our soldier is an introvert who fights like an extrovert. He must.
Our soldier takes pride in himself, in his Army, in his Country.
Yet, our soldier is humble in his ultimate willingness to die for
what he and his fellow Americans have come to depend on, to
love and to cherish.
Our soldier thinks he can, and does.
Our soldier wants, takes and constantly gives.
Our soldier may seem selfish with his thoughts — for often what
he is thinking and feeling cannot be adequately expressed in
words — but our soldier is unselfish in his actions.
Our soldier is Strong, Operative, Loyal, Dextrous, Impassioned,
Enigmatic, Romantic.
Our soldier is a unique combination that,
thank God,
works.*

(By Dana Van Meter.
Courtesy Paul Timm,
Columbus Ledger-Enquirer,
Columbus, Georgia)