

## A Soldiers Christmas

Duty has called us in a dangerous world,  
and it's hard to be away.  
Such is the fortune of soldiers  
as they keep watch on Christmas day.

Think of us this holiday,  
and be sure to make great cheer.  
No sad thoughts about our choice  
to defend what we all hold dear.

We've stood this hardship in the past,  
and will do it time again.  
We hope to see you next year  
even with a war to win.

We ask for only one gift,  
just a simple thing.  
Toast to us for tomorrow's sake  
Lord knows what that may bring?

Hold our families in your heart,  
it's they who suffer most.  
Pray for them and wish them well  
before you make that toast.

How many holidays will we miss?  
As for that no one can say,  
but rest assured we're standing tall  
on this very Christmas day.

Poem by Douglas Welker Bennett  
Written while on deployment in Bosnia, Christmas 2002