

For a Soldier on His Birthday

Christopher J. Heatherly

I did not know your name, or your face,
We never met in life,
I stood on the flight line with many others,
Saluting you, O fallen hero,
As they carried your casket to the plane,
That would bring you home,
Not to a celebration, but to your funeral,
This was your birthday,
You were only nineteen.

23rd September 2011
Bagram, Afghanistan