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MTVarts presents



**PLAY WRITTEN BY:** Suzanne Rudd Hamilton and Steve Jacklin **ADAPTED FROM:** "The Journey: A Veteran Service Memoir" by Steve Jacklin

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MUSIC BY: Steve Jacklin CONDUCTED BY: David Schubach DIRECTED BY: Bruce Jacklin

WELCOME HOME soundtrack available online at www.cdbaby.com.

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Proceeds from Stein Brewing Co. Boo N Brew

This show is dedicated to all Vietnam veterans everywhere.

# Important messages from The Knox Memorial



#### Thank you for supporting the performance and the audience!

- No food or drinks in the theater.
- · Handheld cameras only no tripods, cables, or accessories permitted.
- · All aisles MUST remain free and unobstructed.
- · Silence all devices no texting or talking on phones.

**f y 6** 

knoxmemorial.org

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#### Director's Note



My main exposure to the Vietnam experience was through the eyes of a 13-year-old boy watching his older brother putting away his high school football and seeing him board a plane in route to Vietnam. Memories of our mother still haunt me as she would set up her ironing board every evening in front of the family television. This ritual gave her hands something to do while she silently watched Walter Cronkite deliver the daily causality report from Vietnam. There were no emails, texts, or Facetime to keep in touch. Only the evening news offering any peace of mind that your son was not a part of a deadly conflict.

The Vietnam War claimed the lives of more than 58,000 American service members and wounded more than 150,000. And for the men who served in Vietnam and survived unspeakable horrors, coming home offered its own kind of trauma. They had abuses hurled their way and others remember being spat on. As a military force, Vietnam veterans were met with none of the fanfare and received none of the benefits bestowed upon World War II's "greatest generation."

This is by far the most personable and meaningful production I have ever directed. It is with great honor and humility that MTVarts presents "Welcome Home."

BRUCE JACKLIN is an Army veteran who served with the 63rd engineer brigade at Fort Bragg, NC, from 1974-77. He has been a Mount Vernon community member since 1983. Bruce moved to Mount Vernon to teach art and to raise his family of 6 children. His passion for story telling is known through his work in theater and film. He has directed and acted in over 150 productions. This includes professional, summer stock, collegian and community theater productions. Bruce has appeared in national and local television films and commercials. He won Best Supporting Actor at the San Francisco Actor's Film Festival for the film "Nietzsche Ate Here." He is the recipient of the 2014 Red Cross Education Hero Award. PCG Talent and Docherty Casting Agency represent Bruce. He holds a bachelors and a master's degree in art education and curriculum instruction. Bruce is the artistic director for MTVarts and the Alcove Dinner Theater.

LT COL STEVE JACKLIN (ret) joined the Marines in 1969 and did two tours of duty in Vietnam as a grunt (basic infantryman). After release from active duty, he attended Otterbein College pursuant to a baccalaureate degree and a commission to second lieutenant in the Marines. Steve left the infantry to attend Naval flight training in Pensacola, Florida, where he was awarded his pilot wings in 1979. He left active duty in 1988, continuing his military service in the Ohio Army National Guard. Subsequent to 9/11, Steve was ordered back to active duty where he performed duties in the Pentagon until his retirement from military service in September 2004. Steve retired in 2010 from the Veterans Administration pursuant to a writing career. His published writing include: music albums STORYTELLER JOURNEY, THE WRITERS' SERIES and WHERE THE HELL IS MY PARADE. Book of memoirs titled THE JOURNEY and the musical WELCOME HOME.

#### Cast of Characters

NARRATOR Steve Herbst
AIRPLANE CAPTAIN Jeff Daley

WILLIAM DAULTON Logan Montgomery

TOMMY "TRIGGER" MARUCCI Will Stemen

**"SUGAR BEAR" AVERY** Ian Fraser Ernsberger

**"GUNG HO" TUCKER** Mason Mickley

RONALD "PROFESSOR" DAVIS Aaron Trumbull

STEVE "JACKAL" Lucas Herbst

AIRPLANE STEWARDESS Esme McDonald

**BILL CONRY** Ian Fraser Ernsberger

**GUNNY** Chuck Rogers

**LIEUTENANT** Jayson Herbst

**PRIVATE** Micah Fratangelo

UNIT MAIL CLERK Steve Jefferson

CAPTIAN BRANSON Nigel Salvador

**STAFF SGT CANE** Asa Cormier

KAREN Sage Szucs

MAGGIE DAULTON Kate Ernsberger

DANNY "GPA" ANDERSON Eli Wilson

**GORDON** Jayson Herbst

JACK Joey Daley

**CHILDREN** Gwen Brady

Rosie Stemen

#### Orchestra

#### Conductor | Arranger | Orchestrator - David Schubach

Piano	Christa Brady	Saxophone I	Tom Schwieterman
Guitar I	Steve Spires	Saxophone II	Bob Carpenter
Guitar II	Andrew Clarkson	Bass	Jim Frady
Trumpet	Tim Vance	Drums	Gary Frey

#### About the Conductor



After working in Hollywood for 20 years and serving as the two-term vice president of the Musicians Union, composer/playwright/keyboardist David Schubach has returned to

Ohio. Schubach's music has been performed by symphony orchestras, concert bands, jazz bands, and solo artists. His score for the silent film *The Immigrant*, was premiered at an International Charlie Chaplin Conference sponsored by Ohio University. His drama *Back Words* has been produced in Hollywood, in Ohio, and on the island of Bermuda. Recently he was the music director and arranger for the new musical *Moon River Tonight!* – the Andy Williams Story, starring Chuck Gillespie. The Schubach Big Band performs extensively throughout the region and is noted for its Glenn Miller/WWII show. David is Minister of Music at St. James Episcopal Church in Zanesville, Ohio.

#### **Musical Numbers**

#### **ACT ONE**

MUSIC: Bill of Sale Chloe Skillman and Narrator

Jackal, Suga	ar Bear, Profe	essor, Daulton, Mari	nes
n Blues"		Jackal and Narra	tor
Narrator, Ja	ckal, Sugar B	ear, Professor, Dault	on
		Cane, Ensem	ble
Kiss Me Again	"Jackal, I	Karen, Daulton, Mag	gie
		Narrator, Karen, Jac	kal
	n Blues" Narrator, Ja	n Blues" Narrator, Jackal, Sugar B  Kiss Me Again"Jackal, I	Jackal, Sugar Bear, Professor, Daulton, Marin n Blues"Jackal and NarraNarrator, Jackal, Sugar Bear, Professor, DaultCane, Ensem Kiss Me Again"Jackal, Karen, Daulton, Mag

#### ~ INTERMISSION ~

#### **ACT TWO**

"I'd Rather be Lucky than Good"Narrator, Jackal, Daulton, Marines	S
"Promise" (reprise)Narrator	r
"Daulton"Narrator, Jackal, Sugar Bear, Professor	r
"I'd Rather be Lucky than Good" (reprise)Professor	r
"FNG"Sugar Bear and Marines	S
"Last Marine to Die" (reprise)Jackal	ıl
"Telegram"Narrator	r
"Where the Hell is My Parade"Jackal and Marines	S
"You Fell in Love with Crazy"Karen and Jackal	al
"Welcome Home"Ensemble	Э

#### About the Co-Author



A longtime theatre trouper, Suzanne Rudd Hamilton writes and directs whodunnit and comedy plays and authors romance, mystery and teen books. This is her first musical collaboration... more to come.

The number of Americans who died in the Vietnam War is 58,220. The number of MIA/POW at the war's end was 2,646, and as of January 2018, 1,601 soldiers remain unaccounted for.

Cast Members Cast Members



**GWEN BRADY** (Child): This is Gwen's third show with MTVarts and fourth time on stage. Previous stage credits include Gretl VonTrap in *The Sound of Music*, the littlest

munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol*. She is a second grader at East Elementary School and lives in Mount Vernon with her three siblings, mom, and dad.



**ASA CORMIER** (Staff Sgt. Cane) is thrilled to be back with MTVarts since last performing in their first production, Beauty and the Beast. Asa is a Worship Arts and Ministry Major at

MVNU and has performed in many different theater productions such as Oklahoma, Three Sisters, Les Miserables, Little Women and Lil Abner, just to name a few.



JEFF DALEY (Airplane Captain is a pilot for Delta Airlines and has been flying aircraft for 30 years. He worked as a member of the stage crew and the flying team that made Dorthy, the Witch,

the Monkeys, and Crows fly in the MTVARTS production of *The Wizard of Oz*. He is also the proud son of his father who was a veteran and Army airborne officer.



JOEY DALEY (Jack Daulton) is an 11-year-old 5th grader at Wiggin Street Elementary School. He has acted in the MTVarts productions of *The Wizard of Oz* and *Willy Wonka* 

*Kids* and is also interested in theater light and sound. He enjoys swim team, golfing, reading, art, singing, and playing the piano.



NIGEL DAVID (Captain Branson) is currently employed in the information technology (IT) field but has aspirations to be a professional actor. His big break in the community theater

space was in the lead role of Walter Younger in MTVarts' production of *A Raisin in the Sun*. He was last featured in Stage Right Theatrics' production of *When Your Soul Cries*, a play about a significant and yet nameless moment in civil

rights history, in the role of Jerome Smith. You can next catch Nigel David in MadLab's *Theatre Roulette* this fall. Enjoy the show!



IAN FRASER ERNSBERGER
("Sugar Bear" Avery, voice of
Bill Conry) says it's great to be
back in the Memorial Theatre
and in front of an audience. On

top of his excitement for the

return of live theatre, Ian is more so enjoying his newest role as Father to his beautiful daughter, Anastasia. And after over two years, he will be returning to both the Memorial and Alcove stage this fall and winter. As always he wants to thank his family for all their support and his co-star for life Kate.



KATE ERNSBERGER (Maggie Daulton) can be found backstage and onstage. Some of her favorite roles include Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nunsense*, Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd*,

Frenchy in *Grease*, Janet in *Wally's Cafe*, and Meg in *Leading Ladies*. She also recently stepped into the best role of all - motherhood! Many thanks to her friends and family for their support, and to lan, for believing in her. Enjoy the show!



**MICAH FRATANGELO** (Private) is excited to be performing in his MTVarts debut for his first role in "Welcome Home." Micah enjoys the outdoors and spending time with his family.

He thanks his family and friends for supporting him in this new endeavor.



JAYSON HERBST (Lieutenant, Marine 1 & 2, Gordon) is a senior at Fredericktown High School. He participates in cross country, track and select choir. Additionally, he has participated

in 13 shows with the FHS Drama Club, Licking County Players and Weathervane Playhouse. His favorite roles were Uncle Fester in *The Addams Family* and Lyle in *The Beverly Hillbillies*.

**LUKE HERBST** (Steve "Jackal") is a junior at Fredericktown where he participates in football, wrestling, choir, and drama club. His favorite role was Jethro in *The Beverly Hillbillies*. He has



also acted with Licking County Players and Weathervane Playhouse. He would like to thank MTVarts for the opportunity and his family for always supporting him.



has performed in numerous MTVarts productions over the past 9 years. He has also performed with Licking Co Players and Weathervane (both

in Newark). Some favorite shows he has been in are Jesus Christ Superstar, Cabaret, Assassins, Breaking Legs, and Spamalot. Although he has had the pleasure of playing some pretty delightful and challenging characters over the years, nothing is more rewarding and enjoyable than sharing the stage with so many amazing and talented actors while bringing to life such an important story. This show is made even more special for him because his two youngest sons are members of the cast. Steve would like to thank the entire MTVarts community and staff for putting on yet another incredible show, the Mount Vernon community for supporting live theater, and his wife, Kellie for always supporting him in every adventure each new show brings. Thank you and enjoy the show!



**STEVE JEFFERSON** (Unit Mail Clerk) is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, a Vietnam veteran, and a vocational educator by trade. He got involved in theater in 2013. His performances

include Of Mice and Men, The Black Cyclone, Driving Miss Daisy, Death of a Salesman, I'm Not Rappaport, Lilies of the Field and 12 Angry Men.



ESME MCDONALD (Airplane Stewardess) has been apart of many MTVarts productions, as well as done tech and stage crew for *Bye Bye Birdie, Wizard* of Oz. Sound of Music, and

Frozen KIDS. She is very excited to be on stage

and behind the scenes once again and hopes you enjoy the show!



MASON MICKLEY ("Gung-Ho" Tucker) As a graduate of the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts and pursuing his passion of acting, Mason is excited to finally step on-stage

with his first performance with MTVarts as the role of the insanely "charming" Gung-Ho Tucker; as well as work alongside the incredible cast and crew of this phenomenal show! With a number of family members who have served in the military, he hopes to bring honor and respect to those stories as he slips on the boots and helmet for a wild ride of a tale you're about to witness.



LOGAN MONTGOMERY

(William Daulton) appeared in this summer's production of *The Sound of Music* as Rolf. Logan is a junior at the Knox County Career Center and is

thankful that he was given the chance to show his skills on a brand new stage with many new and friendly and very talented people. He would like to give a big thank you to all the veterans.



CHUCK ROGERS ("Gunny"): This is Chuck's first show since moving back to Mount Vernon. Chuck has done theater in northern California. Some of the shows were Auntie Mame

and *Johnny Danger*. Chuck is excited to be working with Bruce Jacklin and MTVarts.



**ROSIE STEMEN** is a 6th grader from Mount Vernon. She has performed in community shows including MTVarts' *Willy Wonka JR*. and, most recently, her first major role as Anna in *Frozen* 

KIDS She loves drawing, making cards to send to others and is learning to play trumpet. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Interested in advertising in an upcoming MTVarts show program? Contact producer@mtvarts.com or 740-830-6040.

**Cast Members** 





WILL STEMEN (Tommy "Trigger" Marucci) is a sophomore from Mount Vernon. Will has loved his many other performances with this production company, including

The Sound of Music, Willy Wonka Jr., and mostly recently Kristoff in Frozen JR. He enjoys expressing himself through music and acting. He is so glad live theater is back!



SAGE SZUCS (Karen) is a sophomore at Mount Vernon High School. This is her fourth year with MTVarts and she's very excited to be a part of this show! She is elated to have a

live audience once again. Her favorite roles have been Amy March in *Little Women*, Cinderella in *Into the Woods Jr.*, and Queen Iduna in *Frozen Jr.* She thanks the amazing and talented cast and crew who have made this show possible.



AARON TURNBULL (Ronald "Professor" Davis): Somebody once told me about MTVarts, and I'm excited to perform in another show here! I ain't the sharpest tool in the shed,

but I've had some great roles such as the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*, Mr. Green in *Clue:* the Musical, and Stanley in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Enjoy the show!



ELI WILSON (Danny "GPA" Anderson) is thrilled to be back on the stage with MTVarts and this incredibly talented cast and crew. He has been acting for eight years and has had

the honor of playing a variety of roles including Oliver Twist (Oliver!), Pugsley (The Addams Family), Miles (THE INNOCENTS), Jeremy Jacob (How I Became a Pirate), Michael Banks (Mary Poppins), Winthrop (Music Man), and Tiny Tim (A Christmas Carol) among several others. Eli has an undying love for U.S. military veterans and has served them by volunteering with Honor Flight, Champaign Aviation Museum (rebuilding a B-17), Motts Military Museum and cleaning gravestones of fallen heroes. He's so grateful to have been included in the performance of this incomparable production.

#### **Production Team**

Director	Bruce Jacklin
Authors	.Suzanne Rudd Hamilton
	Steve Jacklin
Music	Steve Jacklin
Conductor/Arranger	David Schubach
Producer	Janis Stone
Production Manager	Kate Ernsberger
Tachnical Director	Ion Fracor Frachorgan
	lan Fraser Ernsberger
	Chloe Skillman
Assistant Stage Manage	erEsme McDonald
Set Designer/Scenic Ar	tistBruce Jacklin
	Joseph Bell
	Susan Brown
	Ruth Frady
Makeup	Kerri Mahan
Light Designer	lan Fraser Ernsberger
	Scott Swingle
Light board Operator	Scott Swingle

	Auralie Yoder
Sound Engineering	Alex Thompson, Joy Audio Visua
Sound Designla	
Ticketing	lerbst, Will Stemen, ery, Mason Mickley
	on Arts Consortium
PlaybillMount Verno Media Photographer	
Rehearsal Accompanist	Christa Brady
House Manager	Scott Swingle

Spotlight Operators......David Walsh



**SUSAN BROWN** (Costumer) has a master's degree in theatre. She received her Ph.D. and starting a gourmet kitchenware store. She costumed a non-equity summer

stock company and then the NY Renaissance Fair before returning to Columbus where she pursued an MFA in theatre design. She taught theatre at Ashland University for 15 years and then retired to tend bees and raise vegetables. She has done several MTVarts shows, including The Wizard of Oz (twice), Arsenic and Old Lace, Annie, The Music Man, The Crucible, and The Addams Family.



TESSA CORRIGAN (Stage Crew) is a freshman at Mount Vernon High School. She enjoys crocheting, reading, participating in clubs, and practicing circus arts. This is

her third show with MTVarts; she helped on *The Sound of Music* and *Frozen Kids* and *Jr.* 



RUTH FRADY (Wig Mistress) is proud to be the lead designer and wig mistress for MTVarts, managing an inventory of over 450 wigs and hair pieces. Ruth has worked as an actor

on stage and film, as well as wig and hair designer, makeup artist, and costume dresser for numerous local productions over the years. She and her musician husband, Jim Frady, reside in Mount Vernon. They have three grown children and a Frady cat named Clara. Ruth thanks God the blessing of creativity.



KERRI MAHAN (Makeup) is the make up designer for all MTVarts shows and has also appeared on stage in *The* Addams Family, Bye Bye Birdie, How I Became a Pirate, Rooted:

Stories of Knox County, and her dinner theater debut as the mischievous Sister Robert Anne in Nunsense. When not on stage, Kerri enjoys teaching math to 5th graders at Pleasant Street Elementary School. She is grateful to her family for their love and support.



CHLOE SKILLMAN (Stage Manager) is going to be a sophomore at The Ohio State University this year and is more than honored to have been able to performance work with

MTVarts on 10 amazing shows. She is so excited to turn in her character shoes for her converse to help everyone put this show on stage from backstage so you can sit down and enjoy.



DAVID WALSH (Spotlight) recently appeared in the cast of *The Sound of Music* in a supporting role. He was in two musicals in high school and is thankful for the opportunity to

work on another show. always dreamed about being on stage. He wants to thank MTVarts for believing in him. Break a leg to everyone in the show.



JOHN WAREHAM (Media Photographer): Raised in Fredericktown, John performed on stage during high school and college in local productions of The Wizard of Oz, Oklahoma!

and *Gypsy*, then moved to Los Angeles. While there, he appeared in *Fame* and attended classes at The Groundlings. After returning to Ohio, he played Uncle Henry in *The Wizard of Oz* in 2019, was co-stage manager in the dinner theater production of *Breaking Legs* and created video and photography for *The Sound of Music* and *Welcome Home*.



AURALIE YODER (Spotlight) is sixteen and is a junior at Mount Vernon High School this fall. She performed in *Sound of Music* this summer. Since she fell in love with theater at age

eight, she has been a part of her school choir and numerous school productions. She has also been in five previous MTVarts shows and a showcase directed by Courtney Decosky. When Auralie is not on the stage, she enjoys reading, photography, and playing with her little sister Luna.



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All those who volunteered for the Boo n' Brew
festival and gift bag stuffing

Megan Evans and the staff of Knox Memorial

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