

1962 James Gabriel, Jr.
1st. native Hawn to be killed in Nam

Green Beret

Barry Sadler

C
Fighting soldiers from the sky
G C
Fearless men who jump and die
F C
Men who mean just what they say
G C
The brave men of the Green Beret

C
Silver wings upon their chest
G C
These are men, America's best
F C
One hundred men we'll test today
G C
But only three win the Green Beret

C
Trained to live, off nature's land
G C
Trained in combat, hand to hand
F C
Men who fight by night and day
G C
Courage deep, from the Green Beret

C
Silver wings upon their chest
G C
These are men, America's best
F C
One hundred men we'll test today
G C
But only three win the Green Beret

C
Back at home a young wife waits
G C
Her Green Beret has met his fate

F C
He has died for those oppressed
G C
Leaving her this last request

C
Put silver wings on my son's chest
G C
Make him one of America's best
F C
He'll be a man they'll test one day
G C F C
Have him win the Green Beret

Very rarely do songs from actual combat veterans make it to the airwaves. Rarer still are those songs so embraced by the public. But SSgt Barry Sadler's tune, released even as the American public grew more divided over the Vietnam War, was a smash. While the arrangement sounds a bit stilted now, the sentiment is just as powerful.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5WJJVSE_BE Barry Sadler

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A7-pnAPcSN4> Dolly Parton

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A7-pnAPcSN4> harmony

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKHTHJLOM1w> Caylee Nicole