

## Kate Wolf

### "Agent Orange"

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I was seventeen when I quit school, the year that I  
enlisted  
I don't recall just why I did, my Mom says I insisted  
I had some strange idea then, that Uncle Sam was right  
My Mama cried, she signed the card, and I went off to  
fight.  
But I just found out this morning, the Doctor told me so,  
They killed me in Vietnam and I didn't even know.

Got off the plane in Vietnam, it didn't look like war  
With all I saw, I started wondering, just what we came  
here for.  
Some Officers got drunk at night and cheated on their  
wives  
While those peasants on the other side, were fighting  
for their lives.  
You know the army tried some fancy stuff, to bring  
them to their knees  
Like Agent Orange defoliant, to clear the brush and  
trees  
We'd fly all day above the trails, through clouds of  
poison spray  
But they never said that chemical, would hurt our  
health today.  
But I got the news this morning, the Doctor told me so,  
They killed me in Vietnam and I didn't even know.

Well I tried hard to forget that war, like everybody else  
did  
I settled down, got married and I even had some kids  
Our children both had birth defects, the Doctors had  
their doubts  
They never said what caused it, but I think I just found  
out.  
Because I just found out this morning, the Doctor told  
me so,  
They killed me in Vietnam and I didn't even know.

The Doctor says I have some time, he was trying to be  
kind  
You know, I've never been a radical, but this has

changed my mind  
I'd be so proud to hear my sons say "Hell no, we won't  
go!"  
"Because you killed our Dad in Vietnam, and he didn't  
even know."  
This Agent Orange from Vietnam, we carry with us still  
It stays inside for years and years, and does its best to  
kill  
You might get cancer of the liver, you might get cancer  
of the skin  
You might get a VA Disability, you might not live to win.  
Because I got the news this morning, the Doctor told  
me so  
They killed me in Vietnam and I didn't even know.  
They killed me in Vietnam and I didn't even know.

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