A Daughter Remembers

My own father fought in WWI and came home disabled by mustard gas. My own family members do not understand what war does to those who fight in them. My siblings still blame him for the violence we received when he went into his rages.

It is my experience that what can only be called brainwashing is the culture we grow up in. We allow our children to learn the delusional myths like that of Columbus Day. In Boston, my church teaches flag worship and that God is American, which serves as a lure for good people of all faiths.

Until the pied piper comes along who will stop fighting or confronting others and join us at the table for peace, asking only what do you want for your children—and by doing so see every child, we will be unable to live Armistice.

My prayer is: May we learn to act as if we believe we should do no harm to any life forms on earth—especially earth itself. All is sacred. What creeds we say mean nothing to those we harm. Act as if all is sacred—it is. Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes calls us the Tribe of the Sacred Heart—some of us Scar Clan. Those of us who learn the lessons have the duty to witness to the simple need: to see humanity as one species, one family. Amen, thanks for all you do.

Alice Kast, Scar Clan, 79 and still learning.