

I trust you will find this of value.

It was well recognized that Martha Raye endured less comfort than any other Vietnam entertainer.

The most unforgivable oversight of TV is that her shows were not taped. I was unaware of her credentials or where she is buried. Somehow I just can't see Brittany Spears, Paris Hilton, or Jessica Simpson doing what this woman and the other USO women, including Ann Margaret & Joey Heatherton did for our troops in past wars.

Most of the old time entertainers were made of a lot sterner stuff than

**today's crop of activist
bland whiners. The
following is from an
Army Aviator who takes
a trip down memory
lane:**

**"It was just before
Thanksgiving '67 and we
were ferrying dead and
wounded from a large
GRF west of Pleiku. We
had run out of body bags
by noon, so the Hook
(CH-47 CHINOOK) was
pretty rough in the back.
All of a sudden, we
heard a 'take-charge'
woman's voice in the
rear. There was the
singer and actress,
Martha Raye, with a
Special Forces beret and
jungle fatigues, with
subdued markings,
helping the wounded**

into the Chinook, and carrying the dead aboard. Maggie' had been visiting her Special Forces (SF) 'heroes' out 'west'.

We took off, short of fuel, and headed to the USAF hospital pad at Pleiku.

As we all started unloading our sad pax's, a USAF Captain said to Martha.... "Ms Raye, with all these dead and wounded to process, there would not be time for your show!"

To all of our surprise, she pulled on her right collar and said "Captain, see this eagle? I am a full 'Bird' in the US Army

**Reserve, and on this is a
'Caduceus' which means
I am a Nurse, with a
surgical specialty....
now, take me to your
wounded!"**

**He said, "Yes ma'am....
follow me."**

**Several times at the
Army Field Hospital in
Pleiku, she would 'cover'
a surgical shift, giving a
nurse a well-deserved
break.**

**Martha is the only
woman buried in the
Special Forces cemetery
at Ft Bragg.**

**Hand Salute! A great
lady.**

I did not know this about

**Martha Raye...thought
you might like to read it.**



At Marines for Christ I celebrate the lives, and yes even the passing of heroes. My heroes are not found in Hollywood or some singer like Prince that received more glory than a hero like Martha Raye. Martha Raye is a true hero and worthy of respect at Marines for Christ. God only knows the amount

of work I do to put these emails together but for me it is well worth it. If you are a hero or know of a hero, it doesn't have to be a Marine, I will give your service member male or female, a place in Marines for Christ. It is a sad day, which is today, when we honor a singer who never spent a hard day in his life, like Prince, more glory than a true hero like Martha Raye. I am sorry I cannot fix the margins but Word 7 is giving me fits. I don't dare try and fix it now after finally getting Martha's pictures finally lined up.

One thing I will say further is I am no hero.

<http://www.marinesforchrist.com>