

We are gathered here this morning to honor the memory of Delbert Heinlein ... husband, father, brother, and grandfather.

He was born in 1938, a time very similar in many ways to our own time.

Technologically that year, DuPont began making nylon - whose first commercial use would be in the bristles of toothbrushes.

In the entertainment industry, Walt Disney released *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* - the first feature length animated film. Superman made his debut in DC Comics. And *Looney Tunes* introduced Daffy Duck and Bugs Bunny.

The radio quiz show *Information Please* awarded listeners \$2 for submitting a question, and \$5 if their question stumped the panel of experts.

Later that year, Orson Welles caused a panic with his radio adaptation of the science fiction novel *War of the Worlds*.

A hurricane struck Long Island and southern New England in the late summer that year.

In sports, Joe Louis knocked out Max Schmeling in the first round of their rematch at Yankee Stadium. Howard Hughes flew around the world in 91 hours.

Congress established the minimum wage in the US.

Time Magazine named Adolph Hitler "Man of the Year," while German military aggression in Europe, and the Japanese invasion of southern China set the stage for what was to become the Second World War.

Times may change, but the bond of affection that unite us to one another last for eternity.

For Delbert, life is changed not over, and so we accompany him with our prayers.

We pray too, for ourselves, that we may be strengthened in our Faith in Jesus Christ to persevere in this time of loss.

Later, at the cemetery, there will be military honors. Delbert was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. And as part of that ceremony, we will hear a tune played on a bugle whose formal title is *Butterfield's Lullaby*.

We know this by it's simple title: *Taps*.

There are words to this tune, and I offer them for our reflection.

*Day is done, gone the sun
From the lakes, from the hills, from the sky
All is well, safely rest
God is nigh.*

*Thanks and praise for our days
Neath the sun, neath the stars, neath the sky
As we go, this we know
God is nigh.*

Eternal rest ...