

# Drive-By Truckers, The Sands Of Iwo Jima

George A. was at the movies in December '41  
They announced it in the lobby what had just gone on  
He drove up from Birmingham back to the family's farm  
Thought he'd get him a deferment there's was much work to be done  
He was a family man, even in those days  
But Uncle Sam decided he was needed anyway  
In the South Pacific over half a world away  
He believed in God and Country, things was just that way

Just that way..

When I was just a kid I spent every weekend  
On the farm that he grew up on so I guess so did I  
And we'd stay up watching movies on the black and white TV  
We watched &quot;The Sands of Iwo Jima&quot; starring John Wayne

Every year in June George A. goes to a reunion  
Of the men that he served with and their wives and kids and grandkids  
My Great Uncle used to take me and I'd watch them recollect  
about some things I couldn't comprehend

And I thought about that movie, asked if it was that way  
He just shook his head and smiled at me in such a loving way  
As he thought about some friends he will never see again  
He said &quot;I never saw John Wayne on the sands of Iwo Jima&quot;

Most of those men are gone now but he goes still every year  
And George A's still doing fine, especially for his years  
He's still living on that homestead in the house that he was born in  
And I sure wish I could go see him today

He never drove a new car though he could easily afford it  
He'd just buy one for the family and take whatever no one wanted  
He said a shiny car didn't mean much after all the things he'd seen  
George A. never saw John Wayne on the sands of Iwo Jima