

1968

Dave Alvin

Dave Alvin/Chris Gaffney

(Blue Horn Toad Music, BMI/Calhoun Street Music/Ensaga Songs, BMI, Administered by Bug Music)

Johnny gave Joe his first cigarette  
And Joe lit the filter and then he smoked the whole pack  
And Joe bought all the gas in Johnny's old Ford  
He always said that's what friends were for.

When Johnny married Tina, Joe married Dee  
Two blonde-haired sisters from Covington, Kentucky  
And in '67 Johnny joined the Corps  
Joe did too, but he never knew what for.

And tonight in this barroom he's easin' his pain  
He's thinkin' of someone, but he won't say the name  
Folks say he's a hero, but he'll tell you he ain't  
He left a hero in the jungle back in 1968.

Johnny went from job to job tryin' to make ends meet  
And Tina divorced him back in '83  
Now thirty years come and thirty years go  
And Johnny's got a grandkid that he barely knows.

And tonight in this barroom he's easin' his pain  
He's thinkin' of someone, but he won't say the name  
Folks say he's a hero, but he'll tell you he ain't  
He left a hero in the jungle back in 1968.

Well Dee calls Johnny every now and then  
And talks about her children and her third husband  
But when he asks about someone they used to know  
Dee says,