

Frederick William Dame

What Is A Veteran?

Uncle Ceylon never served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Nevertheless he was a patriot. Indeed, he was a sage patriot.

In the Granby town meeting discussion for the preparation for the Granby Fourth of July celebrations in 1976, which would be the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the United States of America, Uncle Ceylon, who was 93 years old at the time, suggested that someone give a short speech in the Granby town center on the Fourth of July that would pay respects to America's veterans. A young man who was a conscientious objector said.

"As far as I know, you were never in the Armed Forces. How do you know what a veteran is?"

Not feeling insulted, Uncle Ceylon replied, "T' ain't all too diffacalt. Ya don't have ta 'ave served in the Armed Forces ta know what a vet'ran is. Ev'ry American patriot knows what a vet'ran is.

"Okay. If you're a patriot, then tell us what a veteran is! came the sarcastic reply from the younger know-it-all.

Uncle Ceylon with his proud 93 years stood up and said in his clear voice and best English: "A vet'ran is a person who was on active duty military service. The person can be retired, in the National Guard, or in the reserves. A veteran is someone who wrote a blank check made payable to The United States of America for an amount of up to and including that person's life. That's a vet'ran. That's patri'tism. That's honor, and there are way too many people in this country nowadays who no longer understand it."

The younger whipper-sapper, know-it-all was silent. The remainder of those present at the Granby town meeting applauded.



Source: <http://www.allrightmagazine.com/life-in-america/the-lefts-fear-and-loathing-of-our-grand-old-flag-10216/>.

Please read the accompanying article.

The Left's Fear and Loathing of Our Grand Old Flag

Dear American Patriots! November 11 is Veterans Day. Honor your local Veterans and give them and their families the heartfelt feelings that they did not serve their country in vain. Although there is not much left of the United States of America that they were willing to serve, pay honor to both America's deceased Veterans and America's living Veterans.

Frederick William Dame

Patriotic, Steadfast, and True

Veteran, United States Army

November 8, 2012.