

Ann Heathman, The Villages Magazine, August 2019

SPOTLIGHT ON A VILLAGES AUTHOR

THE TOMORROW SERIES

by Ann Heathman,
Village of Hadley

Romantic Suspense

Arianna Garrett has no idea who Zach Acevedo really is, or the dangerous job he hides from her. His unexplained absences due to his work in CIA 'special ops' take a toll on their relationship, as does his controlling nature. Sparks fly as the two battle each other's strong personalities, while contending with doubts, deception and death threats. Sometimes it's easier to deny the truth than face it.

WHAT PROMPTED YOU TO WRITE YOUR BOOKS?

I noticed that when I went to the movies, the stories seemed to fall into one of two categories. One type was the high octane, shoot 'em up, guns and bombs movie with very little romance, but a favorite of the husbands. The other type of movie was a "chick flick," a sweet romantic story, with not much action, geared for women, and one you had to force your husband to go see. I wondered if it was possible to write a story that had high action and a strong romance threaded through it. I wanted my story to be one that both men and women would love. With my 'Tomorrow Series' of books, I believe I have met that goal.

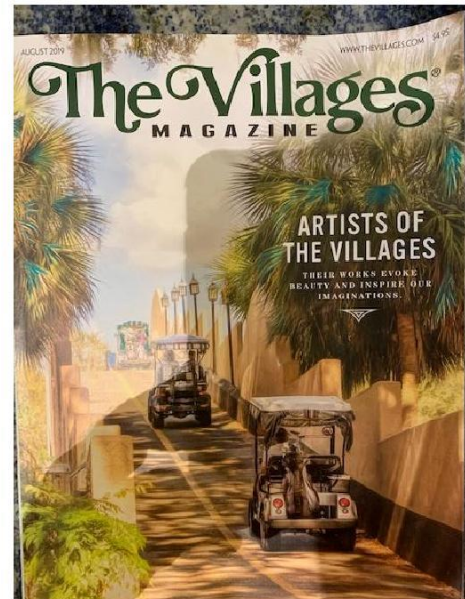
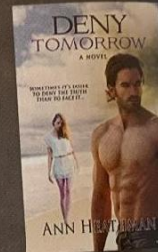
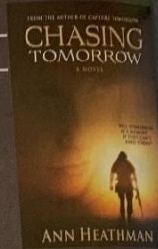
WHAT DO YOU HOPE READERS TAKE AWAY FROM YOUR BOOKS?

I hope my books allow the reader to escape into a fantasy world of romance and adventure set in modern times of spies, international intrigue and suspense.

WHAT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES DO YOU ENJOY?

Writers League of the Villages, Dynamic Dog Club, Wannabee Writers and The Goofy Villagers.

Available on Amazon

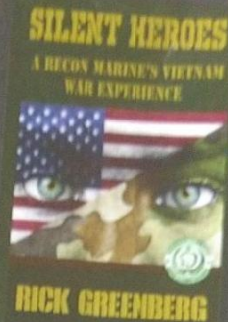


Rick Greenberg, The Villages Magazine, Sept 2019

SILENT HEROES, A RECON MARINE'S VIETNAM WAR EXPERIENCE by Rick Greenberg, Village of Hillsborough

Action/Adventure, Historical Fiction

"Silent Heroes" is not a book for the squeamish or for those who want to read about heroes charging the enemy. It is a tribute to thousands of silent heroes via a journey through gripping battle scenes and one man's account of the Vietnam War. A story based on truth and written for the next generation, "Silent Heroes" dispels false notions and glorified myths held by non-combatants about the glamour they might associate with war.



WHAT PROMPTED YOU TO WRITE YOUR BOOKS?

I started the book for my children and grandchildren. I wanted them to know what it was like to be in the Vietnam War. So much had been written about all the heroes who came out of that war, I wanted the silent heroes to be recognized. So many men died and were never cited for the heroism they displayed. Many of the battles they fought were every bit as ferocious as in places like Hamburger Hill and Hill 881; they just went unnoticed. The book took 10 years to write and during that time, putting the memories on paper helped me recall events I had forgotten and suppressed. The book is listed as historical fiction because an honest memoir requires names and places and dates and times to be accurate. Though I remembered much, I could not recall all that was needed for a memoir. However, everything in the book is based on actual events. Silent Heroes is an award-winning novel and it has been accepted into the Marine Corps Library, Quantico, Virginia.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE READERS TAKE AWAY FROM YOUR BOOKS?

I want to acknowledge those who were there and tell those who have never experienced combat the realism of war — how the average Marine felt moments before combat. I want those who were never there to understand that we were mostly teenagers fighting that war. When we fought, we fought hard. When we played, we played like kids. When we died, we died like Marines. The book is free of politics because it wasn't a topic we discussed. We were and are brothers to the end. I want people to understand that Vietnam veterans are no different than other war veterans. After my son's death fighting in Iraq, I told the media the soldier does not choose the war — the soldier fights the war.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ADD?

I have written a sequel to this book titled "Desert Burning." The story continues from my time after Vietnam to reenlisting back into the Marine Corps and going through the Gulf War. It gives insights to that war through the eyes of an enlisted Marine.

Available on Amazon

