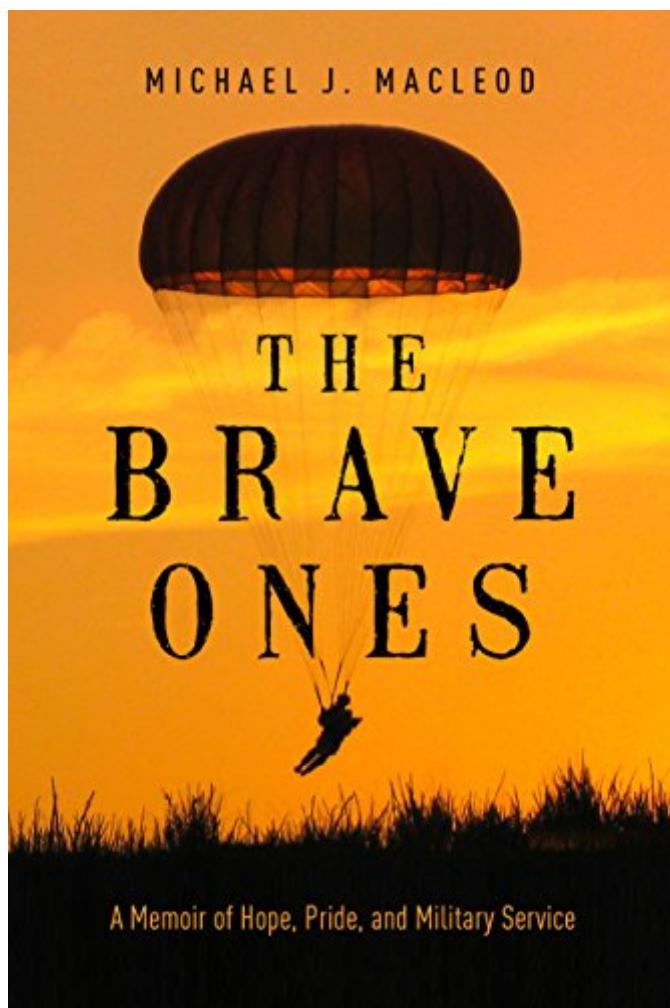


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The Brave Ones: A Memoir Of Hope, Pride And Military Service



Synopsis

How does the US Army mold a video-game generation with its thumbs on the joystick into a proud fighting force with its fingers on the trigger—*and lives on the line*? Michael J. MacLeod, already an accomplished professional photographer and journalist, decided to find out the hard way: by enlisting in the armed forces at age forty-one. What he observed and experienced as an embedded reporter and a serving soldier makes for an unflinching and inspiring portrait of endurance, sacrifice, discipline, and courage. From the trials of basic training on the home front to the ranks of the legendary 82nd Airborne Division to taking fire in the hot zones of Iraq and Afghanistan, MacLeod chronicles the soldier's evolution as only one who's been in those boots can. Candid, wise, and powerful, his memoir takes readers on an unforgettable journey through war and allows them to witness bravery firsthand.

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Customer Reviews

Wow, great book it is excellent. Mac you have out done yourself. Not only are you one of the greatest photographers I have ever seen or know you are now one of the most forward and honest writers out there. This book floods back a lot of memories but more importantly it allows everyday people the opportunity to step inside the life of a Soldier in one of the Army's finest units, the 82nd Airborne Divisions 1ST BDE Combat Team. The story is real, lived by the writer, well written, and pays tribute to some of the finest Soldiers to ever serve this country, some who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and others that will live with scars that can never be seen. Once I started reading it today at about 1030 I was unable to put it down, it grips you, lets you experience the highs and lows of the Soldiers, and tells the real deal not some hog washed stereotypical something that the politicians want the American people to hear, its factual honest and riveting. Mac Thank you for telling the story of our Brave Soldiers, the truth of how we lived, fought and sacrificed has now been told. One of only three books I would recommend to someone wanting to know what it was like to serve during combat in the Global War on Terrorism.....EXCELLENT

A comprehensive view of the US Army from a mature insider. Author covers a lot of territory that probably hadn't occurred to most readers before, from the mundane to the terrifying.

A first person account of the war in Afghanistan. It skips around a lot and is like a never-ending news article. On the positive side, you do get a feel for what desert fighting is like from a soldiers point of view.

As a Vietnam veteran, I have been curious as about what life was like in the all volunteer armed forces and the combat conditions in the countries including which we are now fighting. I found this book very enlightening and not a great deal different from the old drafted service . The good, bad and ugly are pretty much the same only the names are changed. AIRBORNE # ALL THE WAY!!!!

Very informative first person account of the the daily life of a US Paratrooper. From training to deployment in combat situations in Afghanistan. Well worth the read and makes you really understand and appreciate their sacrifices

As someone who deployed to Afghanistan at the same time as the author, I can attest to the accuracy of his story. The narrative is compelling and emotional. Reading the book brings back so many memories -- makes me want to be back in Iraq and Afghanistan enjoying the camaraderie and

the experiences. Buy this book now, don't wait until it is sold out! This would make a perfect gift for anyone who enjoys a good read, not just those who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan.

I just wonder why the author was so selfish to abandoning wife and kids and put himself in harm's way to take pics

My first Five Star review. I have never given one before. Personally I don't read them because I don't believe most of them. However, having read most of the Gulf War books out there, this is on my top 10 list. It does what many other good books of this genre do, however, Macleod does it better. His writing skill and ability to make clear pictures in the readers mind is a talent that few have. He makes you see where everybody is in a fire fight and what they are doing. Add to that some of the most beautiful and artful phrases I have ever read on war history issues. This guy can turn a phrase and make you feel the excitement. And later help understand the beauty of Afghanistan and the thinking of those who have to live there. Good guy and bad guy alike. But most of all he makes you feel in your heart the sacrifice and bravery of young men who run towards gunfire. MacLeod, you are a Warrior Artist.

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