**Work The Vision** by Steve Chaffee chaffeesteve@yahoo.com

honorably discharged

to an uncertain future

no obligations

no debt

no dependents

no significant other

no marketable skills

no job waiting

just me and GI Bill

time to aspire to act

turn from the past

find my way

four years of study

four years the lecture hall

desk lamp burns pages turn—

John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt

men of vision and resolve

fought for American wilderness

primal bliss

pages turn—

Stephen Mather and Horace Albright

organized the vision

fathered the National Park Service

pages turn—

University Professors Sharpe and Bradley

shaped the vision

sowed the seeds of public service

and wildland conservation

then

opportunity knocked

The City of Brotherly Love came calling

*Go east young man*

work the vision

and that road

*...made all the difference*