

# Front Line (1982 Musiquarium Version)

## Stevie Wonder

I am a veteran of the war  
I up and joined the army back in nineteen-sixty-four  
At sixteen, I just had to be a man at any cost  
I volunteered for Vietnam, where I got my leg shot off  
I recall a quote form a movie that said "who's more a man  
Than a man with a reason that's worth dyin' for?"They had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
But now I stand at the back of the line when it comes to gettin' aheadThey gave me a uniform and a tiny salty  
pill  
To stop the big urge I might have for the wrong kind of thrill  
They put a gun in my hand and said "shoot until he's dead"  
But it's hard to kill when "please, I'm your friend" echoes through your head  
Brought up in church taught no man should take another's life  
But then put in the jungle where life has no price, noThey had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
But now I stand at the back of the line when it comes to gettin' aheadBack in the world, the paper reads today  
Another war is in the brewing  
But what about the lives of yesterday?  
And the many happy families that have been ruined?  
My niece is a hooker and my nephew's a junkie, too  
But they say I have no right to tell them how they should do  
They laugh and say quit "braggin' 'bout the war you should have never been in"  
But my mind is so brainwashed I'd probably go back and do it again  
I walk the neighborhood, parading my purple heart  
With a fear of agent orange that no one will stop, noThey had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
But now I stand at the back of the line when it comes to gettin' aheadThey had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
But now I stand at the back of the line when it comes to gettin' aheadWould you believe I do?  
They had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
They had me standing on the front line  
But now I stand at the back of the line when it comes to gettin' ahead

Songwriters

STEVIE WONDERPublished by

Lyrics Â© EMI Music Publishing, Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC, Universal Music Publishing Group Song  
Discussions is protected by U.S. Patent 9401941. Other patents pending.

Lyrics provided by  
<https://damnlyrics.com/>