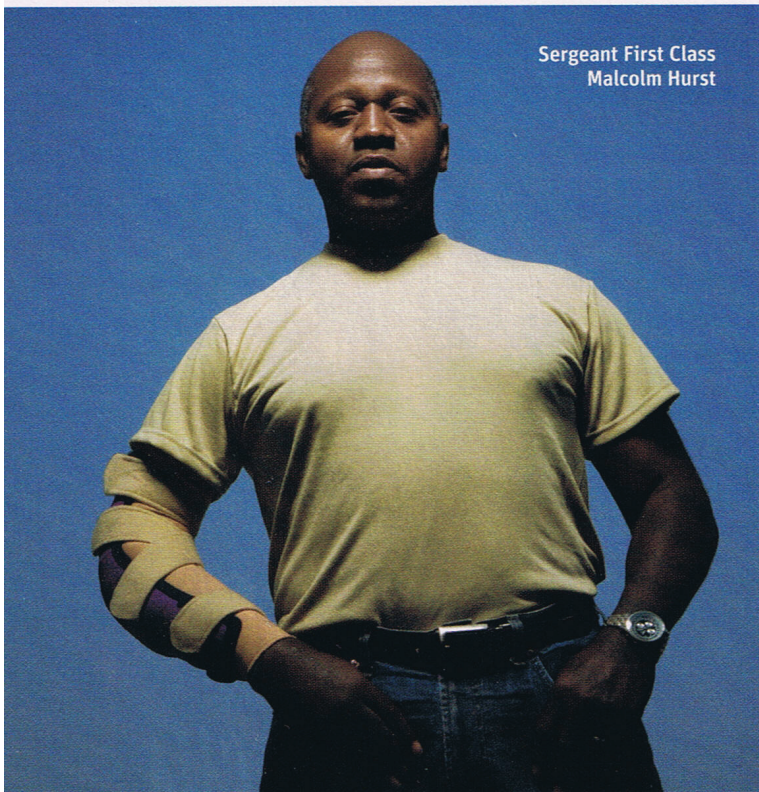


# Comments



Sergeant First Class  
Malcolm Hurst

## \*War Story

I JUST FINISHED reading the article in the July issue by SFC Malcolm Hurst (“For What It’s Worth,” as told to Paige Williams) and am moved to write this. I am a Vietnam War veteran, having served from 1967 through 1968 with the 1st Infantry Division in

**Malcolm Hurst’s article is a story all veterans can identify with—particularly Vietnam vets.**

both the infantry and the artillery. I am also the president of the Atlanta Vietnam Veteran’s Business Association (AVVBA), a group of 245 Vietnam vets from all branches of the service. ¶ Hurst’s article is a story all veterans can identify with—particularly Vietnam vets. I can recall the first night

I came home to my wife and child, that we all sat down to dinner with the six o’clock news in the background showing casualties being medevaced, and the strange and surreal feeling I had just sitting there listening while people I had left just a day or two before were in harm’s way. I know how he feels. I still get that surreal feeling when I see the reports from Iraq and Afghanistan of the hell that is lived daily by the men and women in combat. We should be ashamed that we don’t think about them every waking moment. ¶ May we all stop every day and remember them and their sacrifices.

CARY S. KING  
*Atlanta*

## Grady Hospital

IN REGARD to Chandra Thomas’s article “Can Grady Hospital Be Saved?” (July): I am currently in my third year of residency training at Grady Memorial Hospital with Emory University. I also completed my medical school clerkships at Grady through Morehouse School of Medicine. Ever since Grady’s financial problems became national news, it is unusual to be in a conversation with anyone for more than a couple of minutes without the subject of how Atlanta will survive without Grady coming up. As an Atlanta native, growing up I often heard about the major traumas and resuscitations that took place at Grady. I remember thinking I would one day be one of those doctors taking care of not only the poor and indigent but also the trauma patients that come through the doors. Grady has been everything I imagined and more. My training has been phenomenal—ranging from the bread and butter of medicine to unusual textbook cases. The long hours of residency have become softened by the relationships formed between the staff and patients. I look forward to every shift at Grady and cannot imagine denying anyone the wonderful training I have been blessed to receive. It is unimaginable that Atlanta would allow the loss of one of its greatest assets.

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DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE  
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*Atlanta*

## Tall Tale

I’ve subscribed to *Atlanta* magazine for the last two years, and I have to say that your July issue is the first I’ve actually read cover to cover. I was really moved by the story on Alana Renaud (“Above It All,” by Paige Williams). I think she is an amazing woman to have overcome all that she has and to be able to enjoy life, doing what makes her happy. I can relate to her, as I have not been “average” for most of my life. People, in general, are very rude and cruel and have no concept of the impact their comments and stares have—even when they don’t necessarily mean any harm. It’s never fun being the butt of a joke . . . even a harmless one. It shows how insecure people are when they go out of their way to comment if a person does not fit the cookie-cutter norm.

Thanks for such an inspiring and amazing story.

NAKKI PRICE  
*Atlanta*

I WAS SITTING at a nail salon, waiting for my nails to dry after having a pedicure, and just happened to pick up your July issue. The article that caught my eye was about Alana Renaud, one of the tallest women in the world. I was astonished at her height of six-foot-ten and size 14 shoe.

I felt I must write. I thought I was tall (and I wear a size