

Five Stars

by

Mary Voyadjis

I stare at the five stars,
recognition of a war fought in history,
and they gaze back at me as if
taunting me,
daring me,
to ask them the gory details.

What did he do to deserve these? What did he suffer?

I think back to his death a few years ago, but many years after the presentation of the stars.
What other wars did he fight?

Did he take the passage to Death's dungeons without trepidation?

When he encountered Eternity, was it truly without struggle for a man whose life was
entwined with strife?

The stars seem to wink at me,
but there is a bemused look on their brass faces.