

## George R Pasley

So many people died-

Children, mothers, fathers  
Brothers and sisters and cousins and neighbors, every single one  
A refugee told to leave for their safety  
And then abandoned  
And finally shot  
Inside the tunnel at No Gun Ri  
By the American army  
That told them to  
Leave for their safety.

And yet it took decades  
Of faithful witness  
By one surviving boy  
To make an American president say  
This happened  
And even though in every war  
Soldiers make mistakes  
And we all know war does not come  
With a guarantee  
We are afraid to say  
I am sorry  
Because apologies are for losers.

Well, we lost our honor,  
That's for sure.

George R Pasley  
October 7, 2016  
Seoul Korea

I wrote the poem at the PCUSA mission office in Seoul, after hearing a son of one of the survivors tell of his research into the story. I am a PCUSA Pastor, I traveled to Korea with a group from Presbytery of Northwest Coast in October 2016, led by pastor James Kwon. At the time I was pastoring a church in Ketchikan Alaska, but now I have a church in Martin TN