

**Filling in the Gaps – Visting with Seniors**

Alan Magill

**FLAG DAY VISIT TO BEDBOUND WOMAN**

by Alan Magill

**WOMAN**

She was far away.  
She was right in front of me.

The sunlight came 93 million miles to her face.  
She went nowhere.

I introduced myself.  
She didn't move.

I sang "Yankee Doodle Dandy."  
Her right eye quivered.

I sang "East Side, West Side."  
She moved her right hand.

I sang "My Country Tis of Thee."  
She traveled untold miles to open her eyes.

I sang "You're a Grand Old Flag."  
She smiled.

I asked her how she was feeling.  
She nodded her head slightly.

I sang "Edelveis," gently moving her hand.  
She shut her eyes.

We had met.  
Our journey was over for the day.

She went back to her place.  
I went to my next visit.

**BLACKOUT**

**WRITER's NOTE: This is based on an actual experience of mine as a recreation therapist in a nursing home.**

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The Rabbi Isaac N. Trainin Bikur Cholim Coordinating Council/JBFCS

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