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Old Guard

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2002-11-07 11:35

In a previous thread on public/private etiquette, Knyghtflyher said:

"I have heard Master Doug, from the Sanctuary in Atlanta, describing "Old Guard" protocol as a combination of Emily Post and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Makes sense to me.

What do you think?????"

Before I even begin to answer this question, I feel compelled to say a few things first. I am not old guard as I am not a gay man who fought during WWII. My owner was certainly of that generation but that accords me no claim to old guard. I was trained according to His wish and that was that.

Now, with that being said, my thoughts on the matter are the following.

I think we're a bunch of romantics who have definitely romanticized an era past. I think we've come to admire a generation of men who feel different to us due to their experience, ways of living, their manners and codified behaviors.

As to what the old guard was one must ask many people. The codified behaviors were extremely regional and not necessarily connected with other communities. We're talking about parallel groups with vastly different behaviors who did not have the benefit of events, fax machines, email, etc. They most certainly did not have one unified code of behavior that spanned the country.

If you want to know about that generation of men and their ideals, why not read The Greatest Generation written by Tom Brokaw? This will give you an idea of the moxie and humility of that generation. It will tell you about their ideals of duty, honor, country and family. These values were a part of what we call the OG and from everything I understand they did bring it to their SM.

Catherine

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