

# OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE

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**(THEY JUST FADE AWAY)**

**LT. BARRY DREWES, Ass't Bandmaster  
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY**



*Chas. H. Hansen*  
MUSIC COMPANY

119 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

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(They Just Fade Away)



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Moderato

C G7 F# dim.7 C

OLD SOL - DIERS NEV - ER

*poco rit.* *P a tempo*

G7 C C7

DIE, Nev - er die, nev - er die,

F G7 F# dim.7 C A7 D min. 7

OLD SOL - DIERS NEV - ER - DIE, They just

G7 C F

fade a - way. Fade a - way, fade a -

The first system of music features a vocal line with lyrics 'fade a - way. Fade a - way, fade a -'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. Chords are indicated as G7, C, and F.

C F C F#dim.7

way, fade a - way, fade a - way.

The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics 'way, fade a - way, fade a - way.'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords C, F, C, and F#dim.7.

G7 C G7 F# dim. 7 C A7

— OLD SOL - DIERS NEV - ER DIE,

The third system features the vocal line with lyrics '— OLD SOL - DIERS NEV - ER DIE,'. The piano accompaniment includes chords G7, C, G7, F# dim. 7, C, and A7.

D min. 7 G7 C 1. C F# dim. 7 D min. 7 G7 2. C D min. 7 C

They just fade a - way. way.

*poco rit.*

The fourth system features the vocal line with lyrics 'They just fade a - way. way.'. The piano accompaniment includes chords D min. 7, G7, C, and a first ending with chords C, F# dim. 7, D min. 7, G7, followed by a second ending with chords C, D min. 7, C. The instruction 'poco rit.' is present.

From the Address to Congress by  
General of the Army Douglas MacArthur  
April 19, 1951:

"I am closing my fifty-two years of military service.... I still remember the refrain of one of the most popular barrack ballads which proclaimed most proudly that old soldiers never die; they just fade away. And like the old soldier of that ballad, I now close my military career and just fade away, an old soldier who tried to do his duty as God gave him the light to see that duty. Good by."