



JOHN MCCAIN  
UNITED STATES SENATOR  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 6, 2008

Mr. Gary Stokes  
11632 Bluebird Ct.  
Auburn, CA 95602

Dear Mr. Stokes:

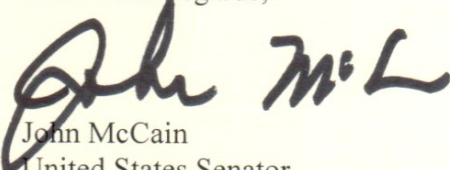
I was deeply saddened to hear of the death of your son, Sean, last July and am sorry that I was unable to attend the ceremony honoring his service being held at Camp Pendleton today. Please accept my profound condolences and know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Our nation lost a great American and true hero. Sean paid the ultimate sacrifice, but his spirit will live on in the many people he touched, the family he loved and the fellow Marines with whom he served. It is the shining example of his service to a cause greater than himself which makes our country great.

We were truly blessed to have this patriot among us and he will certainly not be forgotten.

May your faith and wonderful memories of Sean sustain you and bring you strength.

With warm regards,



John McCain  
United States Senator