



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 11, 2007

BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
MARYLAND

Ms. Rebecca Campbell
Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund
PO Box 3968
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20885-3968

Dear Ms. Campbell & Friends:

Greetings to the all the parents, wives, sisters, brothers, grandparents, children and friends of our brave men and women currently standing sentry around the world for you and me. We gather today to honor and pay tribute to those who are serving and are sacrificing everyday, so that we might remain free. I wish I could be there in person to meet you and thank you for sharing your beloved family member and supporting them in their selfless service to our great nation.

I send a special hello to Carol and Robert Roddy, who lost their dear son, U. S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class, David Sean Roddy while his unit was conducting combat operations in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq. Petty Officer Roddy is an American hero. The people of the United States will always honor his memory.

We recognize and applaud the valor and grit all of our service men and women demonstrate as soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. We are grateful for their dedicated service as Coast Guardsmen, Merchant Marines, Reservists and National Guard Personnel. We thank them for serving in today's conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq much like those veterans who served in every previous conflict for which Americans have been forced to take up arms. They may have been the high school track star, a first responder called to active duty or a fulltime mom, but they answered their country's call.

If you know me at all, you know that I do not think a speech is the way to thank our nation's military service men and women and their families. Rather we should thank them, by making sure the health care, programs and services available to them and their families is the best in the world. So I promise you, that as long as I serve in the United States Senate, I will continue fighting to make sure that promises made to our nation's active duty military and veterans, are promises kept.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara A. Mikulski".

Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator