

To the Herzberg family,

According to the few sources I've seen, Eric was the perfect child. I can't even begin to express my sorrow for you, but at least he died knowing what he was doing was right. It was his choice to join the armed forces, and he knew that falling in battle was possible, but he persevered all the way to the end. His courage and bravery contributed to our freedom and protection, and he is one who will be remembered for years to come. He lived to be a soldier and fulfilled his dream to fight for our country, and he died a soldier. So I'd also like to say thank you; thank you for supporting your son and allowing him to risk his life for us. Memorial Day is on Monday, and I'm certain millions of people will be silently thanking our armed forces, and some of them out there will also be thanking Eric's contribution to this day of remembrance. I know I will, and you will too, and so will those at Mona Shores who will take the time to stop and remember. So I say again: I am sorry for your loss of Eric, but thank you for supporting him, because if there weren't people like him, the United States of America could never be the place it is today.

I'll see you at Arlington,

Zachary Schnotala