

Dear Eric Herzberg-

This is really hard to write... well, I mean, how to begin a letter to a hero? You are one of the most amazing people we ever had in our nation; a fighter. You fought for my rights, my family's rights, my friends' rights, and our country's rights. You fought for freedom, liberty, and justice for all... you are a hero. It's hard to remember a war is going on for most people here... I forget some-times too, which is just really sad. People like you help us remember though. You help me remember that people like you are the reason I'm at where I'm at. You're the reason I can say what I want, preach what I want, write what I want, and be who I am... an American. A proud American. You not only fight for a country, you fight for the citizens, and not only the citizens, but their rights, and their freedom, and their lives. All the thanks I, and our country has, would never amount to what you deserve. You are a fighter, a soldier, and a hero.. and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

much love, appreciation, and gratitude,
Emily Fischer

Dear Corporal Erik Herzberg,
You are a great man. Your sacrifice
for our freedom can never be
thanked enough. You are a great
man and always will be. I know
that your family is sad, but they are
also extremely proud. It is very hard
to put my thanks into words. You
have done great things and you can
not be thanked enough. Hope you are
happy.

From a thankful American,

Liam Huth

Liam Huth

P.S. You are a true American.

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Dear Mr. Herzberg

I have never lost a child personally, never even lost a close family member thank God but I could never imagine losing a child, the strength it takes you amazes me. I offer my sincerest condolences, what you are going through is what when I have children of my own is going to be my worst nightmare. Although your child was taken from you the only comforting words I have to offer are the words of betterness. Your son may be gone from you but he is up in heaven looking down watching out for you, and the fact that you have come today to talk to us puts a smile on his face I bet. He is in a place of that knows not of harm and danger and evil instead of next to you; he is in the hands of God. The hands that welcome everyone with love and from what I have learned these 13 years on earth is that love and words of kindness are the only thing a person needs for happiness. I do wish you the best, the best in life, love, happiness, but the biggest thing I wish for is I hope you learn to live again. Although your son was probably one of the kindest souls and it was very unfair he be taken at such a young age, I feel that it is important to move on in life. I would never dare say forget him but move on with your life, learn to live again, and incorporate him in it everyday. Whether it be his possessions, or his thoughts, or his loving words, I feel you must move on, life is too short to wait for anything to happen; charge life with such a drive Mohammed Ali is scared to face you. Do something while on earth use your son as motivation to start something revolutionary. You helped me so much by just hearing your story from Mr. Whaleberg I can not wait to hear the rest from you. See my sister recently came home after in March leaving for boot camp in the Marines. Her actions crushed my parents and for the first time I saw my father cry. When she came home I was upset with her and did not even want to face her then my friend asked if I wrote a letter to you and I said I forgot all about it. She knew about what was going on in my life and to hold a grudge like that and not forgive just started making me feel like a terrible person. Then I started writing this letter to you and it helped just release all of those negative thoughts I had been thinking, and it made me think how terrible it was that I would think such things about the sister I once loved. I just wanted to thank you for getting up everyday and living life. Even just hearing about you changed my life, which is why I owe you my deepest gratitude, if I had not written this

letter I would still be harnessing this hate, which is why I will never forget your story and you as person. Thank you so much, God bless you, and I wish you the best.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Al-Shatel

Dear Mr. Herzberg,

As I begin this letter to you, your wife, and your beloved son, I'm speechless. I don't know what to say to someone who has felt such grief towards a lost loved one. All I can say are my feelings.

Your son is someone I look up too. He is someone I want myself, as well as my future children, to be like. Eric was a true American hero who paid the ultimate price for not only my life, but every other person in our country. I wish there were better words than "thank you," but that seems to be the only phrase that comes to mind. I'm in total gratitude to your son, as well as every single other soldier in the United States Military who has fought for this country.

As I listen to your wife's letter, tears just come streaming down my face. And I know in my heart that Eric is truly watching over your family, and I believe he wouldn't have wanted to pass on any other way. I'm so appreciative that I had the opportunity to meet you. And since I can't think of any other word, to say to your son, I just wanted to end with a truly meaningful thank you.

Sincerely,
Madison D.

