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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS WASHINGTON D.C. 20510

> Room 2003F J. F. K. Federal Building Government Center Boston, MA 02203 October 27, 1981

Mr. Kevin C. Troy Vietnam Veteran Apartment Complex Box 275 Westfield State College Westfield, MA 01086

Dear Kevin:

I am happy to lend my name in support of your efforts to build a permanent memorial to those who gave their lives in service to our country in Vietnam.

A memorial such as this looks to the past and carries a message for the future. We look to the past, to Vietnam as one of the most difficult experiences in our life as a nation. Yet we must remember those who died there and served there with the same honor, respect, and affection which we have bestowed on veterans of other wars.

We look to the future. A nation whose spirit was fractured by Vietnam cannot be made whole again by putting off the care, concern, and respect which we owe to those who served in Vietnam.

The beautiful design chosen for the memorial in our nation's capitol will serve to remind us of these obligations to the past and to the future. It will be a fitting symbol of our national commitment to honor the memory and sacrifice of those who relinquished their lives, their liberty and their pursuit of happiness, some forever, some for a time by serving honorably in Vietnam.

In addition, I find the planting of a living memorial in Stanley Park a fitting tribute by the people of Westfield. It is something the entire community can take pride in, as it reflects on the courage and honor of our nation's Vietnam veterans.

Sincerely, Tan

PAUL E. TSONGAS United States Senator

PET: afd