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Mon April 17, '03

Hey Josh,

Just thought I would write and say Hello and tell you that we hope you are doing OK. You are on everyone's mind around here, every day + night. Your name is in lights on the Hometown Banks flashing sign along with some of the other military personnel over there that are from here. We took pictures of it. We are proud!!!

Danny is playing his computer game but is on constant watch for an E-mail from you but we figure you're not allowed to do so at the time. His middle school baseball team did well this year but lost in the semi-final game at Henderson County by 8-3. It C scored 8 runs in the bottom of the 5th after 2 were out. It was fun training, they (It C) were bad sports the entire game. Bunch of bigtime rednecks. So now we are starting Rec. Ball in which I am the coach. We are going to start kicking ass.

Marcia came home and had lunch with Sandra a couple of days ago, at Applebees in Carrollton. They shared a few laughs. Sandra said she seems to be doing ok. Waiting on you to come home is tough but it will be great when you're back. We plan on coming to meet the boat when ye'll arrive back. We'll stay in a motel but we have got to see you as soon as you get back.

We have watched an awful lot of CNN and Fox News war coverage and we are so proud of all of our troops over there. I am especially grateful that you have the job you do. It takes a smart, intelligent person to do your job. But luckily you do have a few benefits that other Marines don't. I remember at the recruiting office that day in Pensacola and you looked at that Special Forces poster on the wall and you said you might like to do that and me + Sandra freaked out and said "no way" - you need to work with computers and stuff. We sure are glad that you are not in that job now! You have a good job and a very important job so stay on the ship and do it, ha ha.

We opened the pool today and it looks great. Can't wait till you see it. All it needs is a couple of those flying fish. Ha ha.

Talladega was run yesterday but you said not to tell you who won. So I won't. No big surprise anyway.

The Braves have started playing but I can't wait till football season.

Danny says he's going out for football this year on the JV. That will be good for him plus he needs that kind of training to go in the Marines. He is still planning on doing that unless you can talk him out of it.

Yours Dad

Tues April 8

Hey Tosh

Hope you are O.K. I know you are homesick and I am so sorry. I know well what that feels like and its a miserable feeling. I still cry when we go on vacation — guess its some kind of child-trauma thing with me. Anyway, we will be so happy when this thing is over.

The news say they think they have bombed and killed Saddam & his sons — hope so. It also showed a soldier, I think with the 3rd infantry sitting in Sadaams palace like a king & smoking a cigar or something. You are there and that's so cool. Even said some of our guys took showers at one of the palaces. I told Danny, I wonder if Tosh feels like he's missing out a little being out at sea. I'm sure the guy in you feels so, but the parents in us are smiling about that.

Macie is home as Danny told you, she may stay for awhile — She was homesick too! Missing you! we are glad she came home we worry about her alot. So get finished and come home safe. We all love you.

Sandra

Lil D.Y. says he writes to your favorite step-mom Sleepy, so I told him to do a letter on the post. He loves ya though!