



GEORGE BUSH

**August 2003**

**I am happy to have the opportunity to pay my respects to the members of the 281<sup>st</sup> Assault Helicopter Company who will gather for a big reunion on September 13, 2003. Greetings to all.**

**As veterans of the United States Armed Forces, you are heroes in the truest sense of the word. Your courage and sacrifices reflect the great spirit of which General MacArthur spoke at West Point: that of duty, honor, and country. I have no doubt these words have guided you all your lives.**

**As a fellow veteran and as a former Commander-in-Chief, I salute each one of you for taking up the torch of freedom and answering your country's call to duty. I also join you in remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. All Americans owe them a lasting debt of gratitude.**

**Have a wonderful and memorable gathering. We Bushes send our very best wishes to you and to your families.**

Sincerely, -

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. W. Bush", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.