

Dear Wendell and Andrea,

If we are here today, there is no doubt it's because of Virgil. Had he not given his life for Freedom we would be each in our country, even ignoring each other's existence. But Virgil had another destiny. Being a musician in the 90<sup>th</sup> Division Band seemed to be the right place to survive the war. However, all of a sudden he was ordered, without warning to become a stretcher bearer on the Front Line. On June 14, 1944 he was trying with some friends to save a wounded truck driver. He was killed during this action.

Knowing Virgil through his letters and diary, I am sure that during the few seconds of this action, his last seconds, he may have been satisfied with his accomplishment.

We, as French, feel sorry, not only about Virgil's death, but also, and mainly, for all the pain and suffering of his parents and entire family. You all will be forever in our memory.

Thank you Andrea and Wendell, for giving us such an opportunity to express our feelings before this flag, and of course for having taken such good care of us for so many days.

Henri Levaufre

August 16, 2009

Vashon Island, Washington