

Dear Jason,

You will never believe how proud I am of you. Jason, you were the orneriest kid in the world at times, the silliest kid in the world at times, but that is what made me love you.

Now as a man you became a wonderful father and a great husband. Trust me when I say that your self-determination and pure heart for your goals will forever live in my soul as well as your mothers and your brother and sister. We all loved you for who you were as a child, young man, most of all as a man. You gave your life for us all.

It is hard to put my feelings on this paper because the love and pride I have for you can't be put in words. You have heard the words many times: 'He followed in his brother's footsteps, or, he followed in his father's footsteps. I have never heard them say. He followed in his son's footsteps, but I will do the best I can.

Your mother and I will always watch over Theresa, Hannah, and Kyla. You know how Ma hovers, so rest easy. You have left behind a legacy to your family and the world. I intend to uphold it. In the big picture of things, we are only here on earth for a blink of an eye. It won't be long before we are together again. God always seems to take the best of the best first.

I lately feel a great comfort when I shut off the lights at night, knowing you are in a better place and serving God as one of his angels, looking out for all of us. I will ask God to forgive me of all my sins. I will do my best to live by his glory. Please give your mother a sign that you are with her and that you are at peace. Please watch out for her when she gets to heaven, take her hand and comfort her.

Jason, I will do my best to make the world understand just how important you and your fellow Pararescuemen are to them. Pop and Ninnie love you very much. Papa is so proud of you and seems to be taking this in stride. He knows you will be with him now and in heaven. My mother said she knew you would be a hero someday. She loves you.

Through all this. I have come to realize all the things that are taken for granted in life are as fragile as the shell on a sparrow's egg.

Jason, I will never forget you and you will be in my heart forever and beyond.

Your Loving Father
Red Cunningham