COLONEL WILLIAM FOLEY, JR. (RET.)

William Foley, Jr., Ph.D. was also in Vietnam with Rick. Bill is currently a professor at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and specializes in Public Safety Homeland Security and National Security. Bill is on a mission to make sure that is Rick posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award you can receive. He has been a great friend to me and supportive from the beginning.

Rick was a true friend. I first met him in October 1964. We were all young then, yet Rick stood out among all of us. It was not just his Cornish accent, but rather the sense of genuine friendship and honesty he exhibited. That was in the human dimension, he genuinely cared about each of us and our concerns. I was the second youngest in my Officer Candidate School class, with only 13 months of Army experience under my belt. When I reported to Infantry OCS, Rick could have dismissed me as someone between a nuisance and a nobody-among the many great soldiers of our class. He did not. He always had time and made time to help me and answer my questions, plus freely gave good advice, and had a sense of humor as well.

We became friends and we played on some of the same flag football teams there during "time off," in this 24-week grueling experience. It was easy to recognize the true leadership dimension of Candidate
Rescorla. Leaders can be either made or born, but Rick possessed the quiet character traits which later would propel him to the top of the Army Infantry as a full Colonel and into the memory of our Nation forever. He always made sure things were OK with us on the night patrols, at the live fire ranges, in cliff rappelling, and in helicopter and armor operations — all of it dangerous. With all the attributes, traits and principles, Rick Rescorla simply put — was a great American and a really good person. He is now remembered in our American legacy, in classes here, at the Garden of Heroes of the United States Army War College, at Fort Benning, at Arlington National Cemetery and around the world. He was a good and humble man, the bravest of the brave, and is sadly missed.