

USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Project  
<http://ThresherMemorial.org>

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera  
Executive Director  
Army National Military Cemeteries  
Arlington National Cemetery  
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Dear Ms. Durham-Aguilera

I am writing you today to demonstrate my support for the mission of the USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Project to erect a privately funded National commemorative monument to USS Thresher (SSN-593) in Arlington National Cemetery. This monument will be designed to perpetuate and honor the memories of the 129 patriots who perished in the worst submarine accident in United States history 55 years ago during the height of the Cold War.

On April 10, 1963, USS Thresher was conducting sea trials after undergoing a major maintenance period at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine. During those trials, Thresher suffered an emergency from which the crew could not recover. This tragedy took the lives of 108 of the ship's force, four observing Navy officers, and 17 civilians.

In response to Thresher's loss, the Navy established a Submarine Safety and Quality Assurance (SUBSAFE) program that is charged with providing the maximum reasonable assurance that our Navy and our Nation will never have to endure such a loss. To date, no SUBSAFE certified US Navy submarine has been lost while defending our Nation.

I ask that you approve and recommend to the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Dr. Mark T. Esper, the installation of the USS Thresher commemorative monument in the most hallowed ground in the United States.

Very Respectfully,

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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