

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Susan Speidel, and I am the sister of John Speidel. I am writing to express my wholehearted support for naming a highway in honor of John, whose life and sacrifice deserve lasting recognition.

John fulfilled a lifelong dream when he graduated from West Point and became a highly skilled helicopter pilot. He proudly accepted an assignment to fly rescue missions in Vietnam—missions that saved many lives. On his 25th birthday, his helicopter was shot down. He fought bravely for his life in a hospital in Okinawa but ultimately passed away, just after the birth of his daughter—a daughter he never had the chance to meet.

John was not only a courageous soldier but also a devoted brother, son, and husband. His absence is felt every single day. I miss him deeply and often wish for just one more day to tell him goodbye.

John's legacy lives on through the people he saved, the lives he touched, and the family who continues to honor his memory. Naming a highway after him would be a powerful and fitting tribute to his service, sacrifice, and spirit.

Sincerely,
Susan Speidel