



The American Legion

Department of New York

Albany, New York 12207

Theodore S. Coleman
Department Commander

Richard M. Pedro
Department Adjutant

22 August 1995

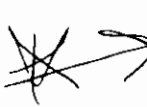
Mrs. Joel H. Cook

Walden, NY 12586

Dear Linda:

Shortly after I received your letter of July 25, 1995, I received a duplicate letter from Charlotte Craven, Past Department President of The American Legion Auxiliary. Joe Colwell also informed me of your interest in an addition to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

An addition has been supported by others. I'm sure you are aware of that. Certainly Joel was as much a war casualty as those listed on the "Wall."

 You probably know that American Legion policies begin with resolutions from local Posts. What would be more appropriate than to have a resolution for an addition to the "Wall" emanate from the *William Deakin — Joel H. Cook American Legion Post 158* in Walden? I've already spoke to the Post Adjutant, and he endorsed my suggestion.

I am very disappointed my schedule will not permit me to attend the rededication ceremony formally renaming the Walden Post, and the dedication of the gazebo built in Joel's memory. I received a very kind invitation from the Post Adjutant, but my duties require my presence in Schenectady County the entire Sunday of September 24, 1995.

My thoughts will be with you that day. There is nobody I admire as much as your husband. His unselfish work was not in vain.

Sincerely yours,

Ted

Theodore S. Coleman
Department Commander

cc: Richard M. Pedro, Dept. Adjutant
Charlotte Craven, PDP
Joseph F. Colwell, Post 158 Adjutant