

1-17-01

Dear Colonel Metzner,

I am very grateful that you came to speak to our class about your experiences in the Vietnam War. It was very educational for me and I enjoyed it very much. I enjoy learning more about the aspects of WWII and Vietnam. I can tell it must have taken a lot on each soldier's part. Fighting against enemies and having to destroy villages, knowing you were taking the lives of the innocent people would make me emotionally stressed. I'm glad that they gave their all to keep Communism from spreading. The United States might not be the way it is today, the way so many people take for granted.

Learning about Vietnam has taught me that I shouldn't take our country's safety for granted. Thousands of soldiers sacrificed their lives for that. They risked it all in dangerous situations that I could not have gone through emotionally if I were a soldier. I commend you for that. I can imagine that you were terribly shaken on more than one occasion. I know that you were brave and determined to make it through alive. Like you said, many

people saw soldiers as murderers and baby killers, and that they had no idea what the US forces were going through.

I extremely enjoyed your visit. I hope you continue teaching people about your experience. It was very educational.

Thank You

Allison Vandermolen