

DEC 07 1992

Shannon C. Puglia
P.O. Box 372
Dingmans Ferry, Pa. 18324

December 3, 1992

Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, Jr. (USN-RET)

Dear Admiral Zumwalt:

I am enclosing a clipping from yesterday's Newark, N.J. Star Ledger, regarding the latest developments with the Pointman Project, that I felt you would want to see.

Also, a copy of the letter I received in response to my letter to Dr. Holsinger. I find it strange that Dr. Mather responded to it, rather than Dr. Holsinger. I also find it strange that she is "not aware of an attempt to tamper, prejudice and improperly influence the adjudication" of my claim.

In his letter to you, Dr. Holsinger clearly named my husband and stated that his cancer was not "associated with his presumed exposure to Agent Orange". The man has already made a decision on a claim that has yet to be filed, but does not feel that he is tampering. Amazing. Perhaps the DVA realized that the good doctor put his foot in it, and that is why someone else responded to my letter.

The little cartoon enclosed was sent to me by a Pen Pal in Australia, an American Vietnam veteran who relocated to Gulgong after the war. He is suffering from Non-hodgkins Lymphoma, and just received a 30% disability rating from the DVA. He is asking me to help him get it increased, and I don't know how, so I forwarded all of his information to Paul Sutton, in the hope that Paul may be able to give me some direction.

There is another matter that I need to bring to your attention, and I find it rather unpleasant. It is a rather long story, but I will try to "condense" it.

A few months ago, while corresponding with Ms. Lefevre, I sent her a copy of a cartoon that my late husband drew. I have enclosed a copy of the original, in its entirety along with this letter. All that I sent Ms. Lefevre was the front page, with the soldier, and "Vietnam veterans are dying to tell you about Agent Orange".

Ms. Lefevre was very taken with it, and telephoned and asked

my permission to have her cousin, who owns a printing business make up two (2) bumper stickers with the quote from my husband on them. One for herself, and one for me. I told her that would be very nice, but to please include my husband's name, date of birth, and date of death, as it was his "thing", and should anyone see them on the automobiles, he should have credit for saying it. She snapped that "It's a bumper sticker, not a memorial". I left it alone.

I later found out that she had approximately 30 or 40 printed, and handed them out at the National Academy of Sciences public hearing, without my permission, and without George's name on them. I watched her present you with one at the Coordinating Council Meeting. In late September, I attended a POW vigil in Sussex County, New Jersey, where I spotted one on a car. I asked the fellow where he got it, and he said that a lady in Washington, D.C. gave it to him, that her husband had said the quote shortly before his death. (I know, I am rambling on and all of this is childish, but this is not the point that has me upset, please bear with me)

I telephoned Ms. Lefevre, and asked her to please stop, and told her that I was hurt that George's little saying was being used and credited to her Jerry. She was very apologetic, and said that she never said that Jerry said it, and I told her that was not the point. That if she had done as I asked, and put George's name on, there would be no problem, and that if she had left it at two stickers, there would be no problem, but that if she continued, someone would spot them, decide that it was a clever thing, start making the stickers, and selling them to vets, and make a profit on something that to me is quite sacred, and would she please stop.

She agreed to stop, and promptly went back to her cousin, had 100 stickers printed, with George's name and date of birth and date of death along with "Vietnam Veterans are dying to tell you about Agent Orange", at a cost of \$40.00 per 100.

She then sold twenty stickers to an Agent Orange victim in Florida for \$20.00. She wrote to me and told me about it, and I was livid. I told her to return the money to the vet immediately. I doubt if she did.

I am extremely upset over the fact that this well-to-do woman who was left quite well off by her late husband is making a 110% profit from Agent Orange Victims. I am extremely upset that in doing so, she is using my husband's good name, and I am fearful that someone will think that I am the one selling the bumper stickers. I am also upset over the fact that the woman feels the necessity to have your good name on her "business cards", which she hands out to everyone she meets, and that this may in some way reflect back on the Coordinating Council, as though the council is selling items

for profit. I am disgusted by the entire affair. I am not writing this letter to be a "tattle-tale", I am writing to make you aware of a potentially nasty situation, should someone other than me take offense at what she is doing.

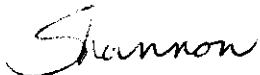
My husband had a wonderful reputation in the Veteran's Community, as shown by the "Orange Heart Medal" (copy enclosed) designed by a dear friend of his. He was loved and cared for by many people, and that this woman would dirty his good name by taking financial advantage of disabled agent orange victims has me furious. I just sent for a packet to have the saying copyrighted, and I have proof of where it originated, but I should not have to go through the time and expense of all this in order to protect myself and my husband's good name from one who professes to be one of "our own". My husband would never have taken a dime from a "brother in arms" and neither would I.

As desperate as I am financially right now, I would go hungry before I would take advantage of the Agent Orange issue for personal gain. I refuse to accept any money for anything that I do. I just finished computerizing Jim Burdge's Health Study at my own expense. Computer paper and ribbons for my printer and postage all paid for myself, and I am destitute. How dare this woman do what she did?

My main concern right now is protecting my name and my husband's name, and that no one think that this profitable little side-line is connected to the coordinating council. I don't know if she is still at it or not, but I intend to do everything in my power to stop her. I am sorry to burden you with all this, but I felt you should be made aware of the situation so that you would know it is not me making money on this, and that she uses your name to do "business", and that it could conceivably reflect back on the coordinating council.

On the brighter side, I hope you and yours had a pleasant Thanksgiving, and extend my heartfelt good wishes for a joyous Christmas.

Sincerely,



Shannon C. Puglia

THIS WEEK, TODAY . . .

