

February 8, 2010

BILL MCCLELLAN
The St. Louis Post Dispatch
900 N. Tucker Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63101

Dear Bill,

Lt. Dan Riordan lived by one phrase, "All gave some, while some give all." Lt. Dan Riordan gave his tomorrows so that we can have today.

Lt. Dan Riordan was born in 1983. A graduate from Vianney High School and then South East Missouri State University, Dan aspired to serve his country. Dan joined the Air Force ROTC while attending SEMO, but shortly after graduating switched from the Air Force to the Army.

Dan was sent to Iraq in October of 2006 where he was to serve a fifteen month deployment. He was a lieutenant in charge of an entire platoon named the Demon Company that he described as "the tip of the spear to pave the way for our mission." Even after being overseas, Dan was a strong believer that the war was a valiant effort to give the innocent of Iraq their freedom, and give them entire control of a country they deserved. While in Iraq, Dan showed strong leadership and extreme bravery as he is quoted as saying "How can I order my men forward if I'm not willing to go first?" On June 23, 2007, Dan lead his team as they were sent on a mission. An IED explosion took the life of Lt. Dan Riordan that day, along with four others.

Bill, we at St. Louis Pizza and Wings were so inspired by a local hero's story that we have decided to join the cause. Although this was our first year doing it, St. Louis Pizza and Wings joined together with the "Lt. Dan Riordan Memorial Scholarship" to raise money to give to a student in need in Lt. Dan's name. On the night that Vianney holds a trivia night in Dan's name, a percentage of the proceeds of all orders for St. Louis Pizza and Wings goes to the cause. This year we raised \$450 dollars just from one store to give to this special cause, and we are so moved by Lt. Dan's story we are already campaigning for next year so we might have a bigger impact.

We thought this would be an important story because we want to make the cause bigger. To be able to inform people who do not know of Dan's story and have no contact with his foundation or St. Louis Pizza and Wings would be a huge benefit. By running this story in the "Post" we believe it can reach a great amount of the metro area and really make an extreme impact on a lot of lives. I have read your work, and believe that you are a man that could really make this happen. A lot of information in this letter and a lot more can be found on Lt. Dan's website <http://www.ltdanriordan.com/>.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Latragna
Manager
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