Good Afternoon Sheri and Patty,

Thank you both for this wonderful news. The efforts of the both of you, and all others who are and have been involved in this memorial effort, has touched the deepest recesses of my heart. You both know of my passion for the creation of a memorial, and to say this is an emotional moment for or me is not anywhere near being able to express how deeply this has moved me.

I know how much this will mean to the families, for this memorial that honors their loved ones who made the ultimate sacrifice. The men paid the price, the families lived the aftermath of their loss for decades and in silent obscurity.

I am grateful beyond words and truly humbled by all efforts to see the memorial come to fruition. I am truly honored and blessed as are those for whom this memorial will have overwhelming meaning.

The rendering, the location, and the overall ambiance are all very cohesive. I am grateful for the efforts that resulted in the new site location that will be one of honor for decades to come.

I will wait until the conclusion of the Valdez City Council Meeting, scheduled for June 6, before I give formal notification to the families and the Alaska National Guard. That meeting will truly be a testimonial acknowledgement to the many extraordinary and compassionate efforts that have been given.

As I look forward to hearing the outcome of next week's meeting please know that both of you have my utmost gratitude, respect, honor, and humility. Please feel free to share what I have written with the Honorable Mayor, Ruth Knight and the City Council Members.,

Chuck Volanti