

He received flight training in Pensacola, FL, and inherited his love of flying from his father, John, an architect who helped design the Aerospace Museum in San Diego.

Promoted to lieutenant in the year 2000, Adams won two National Defense Service Medals, three Sea Service Deployment Ribbons and other awards.

"He's one of these amazingly clean-cut, all-American kids," his aunt, Elizabeth Hansen, told the San Diego Union Tribune newspaper. "He's the kind of kid that if you had a very special daughter, you would hope that she would snag him. He was just amazingly bright, funny and kind."

In October of 2002, Lieutenant Adams was assigned as an exchange officer with the British Royal Navy's 849 Squadron, now on the aircraft carrier *Ark Royal*.

An avid soccer fan who had volunteered to go to Japan with the carrier *Kitty Hawk* in time for the World Cup finals last summer, he joined a local team near his base in Helston, England. Lieutenant Adams' family said that he particularly enjoyed his time with the Royal Navy for two reasons: every ship had a pub on board, and he was allowed a weekly 20-minute phone call home.

"This is an extremely close family, and none of us will ever be the same," said his aunt, Elizabeth Hansen. "All of us just remember him as a fun-loving guy with a wry sense of humor and we can't imagine going forward without him."

I can only hope that they do go forward. And it is to his family—to his parents, John and Marilyn, and his younger sister, Cari—that I extend my deepest sympathies.

All Americans owe an enormous—an almost incalculable—debt to LT Thomas Mullen Adams, who accepted great risk and was willing to sacrifice his future for the future of the country he so clearly loved, so that we, as a people, might be safe and free. His sacrifice will never be forgotten.

#### TRIBUTE TO CALIFORNIA SERVICEMAN KILLED IN IRAQ

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, as we pray for all those who are in harm's way, I rise to pay tribute to a Californian who was killed in the Iraqi war.

Marine Corps Cpl Randal Kent Rosacker, age 21, of San Diego, CA, was killed on Sunday, March 23, when he encountered Iraqi troops pretending to surrender. He graduated in 2000 from San Diego's Junipero Serra High School where he was a star baseball player. He joined the Marines at age 18 and was a machine gunner based at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, his father—a Navy Master Chief at Naval Station Bremerton his mother and two sisters.

May this beautiful young American rest in peace. May we have a short war. And may we also pray for the wisdom of those who send our young men and women on their mission.

#### THE WAR IN IRAQ AND SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on March 20, President Bush ordered U.S. forces to begin attacking Iraqi installations. There are currently 225,000 American service men and women in the Persian Gulf region. Two hundred thousand members of the Reserves and National Guard have been called to active duty. Several thousand Connecticut residents are doing their part—1,500 members of Connecticut's National Guard; 750 deployed to the Middle East and another 750 activated to participate in homeland security related responsibilities. There are also 2,778 of Connecticut's sons and daughters serving in the Navy—active members and reservists, 532 in the Army, and 310 in the Air Force. Dozens of Connecticut's police officers and firefighters have been called up for active duty. I thank each and every one of them. And say to them that I am proud and honored to represent them in the United States Senate.

As is always the case, these young men and women stand ready to obey the orders of the Commander in Chief—the President of the United States—to take up arms and risk their lives in defense of all Americans and the values of freedom, liberty, and democracy. I greatly admire the courage and professionalism of our service men and women who are now engaged in this dangerous conflict far away from home and loved ones. Americans stand as one in support of these brave individuals. I also want to express my gratitude to the family members of our soldiers. They more than anyone understand the sacrifices involved in the service of our country. War is a treacherous endeavor, and we will all pray for their safe return. I am confident that in the days and weeks to come, America and the U.S. Congress will continue to provide our service men and women with all the support they need and deserve.

Over the last several months, my colleagues and I have engaged in an ongoing dialog about when and under what circumstances the U.S. should commence military action in Iraq. I have been a participant in these important debates, as have many others in this Chamber. And across the country, in cities and towns, Americans have also been discussing these issues with their families and neighbors. Many have voiced strong opinions. It is right and appropriate that this has occurred—that is what living in a free country is all about.

Last Fall, I supported President Bush's decision to go the United Nations and seek the support of U.N. members to resolve the threat posed by Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. I supported the deployment of U.N. weapons inspectors to Iraq to verify its peaceful disarmament. As much as anyone, I wanted those diplomatic efforts to succeed. I believe that President Bush did as well. Unfortunately, Saddam Hussein obviously did not.

While there may have been differing opinions on some aspects of our policy toward Iraq, there has been no disagreement that Saddam Hussein is anything but a cruel and murderous tyrant. At every critical juncture, Saddam Hussein chose to impede the work of the inspectors. At every fork in the road, he chose to squander opportunities for peaceful disarmament presented to him by the international community. Finally time has run out.

And now, Saddam Hussein must bear full responsibility for what is about to befall him. He brought it upon himself. I have no sympathy for his plight. The real tragedy is that others may have to suffer for his sins—although I am confident that American soldiers will make every effort, use every means of intelligence, and employ all available technology to minimize civilian casualties.

Would that Saddam Hussein had shown the same regard for his people that our forces will. His record has been the opposite. This murderous tyrant has routinely had his own people tortured, raped, beaten, and executed. In 1988, he ordered the use of chemical weapons against the Iraqi people, killing 5,000 men, women, and children in a single day. Now, he may be ordering his elite troops to use the city of Baghdad as a fortress—a human fortress—endangering the lives of countless Iraqi civilians.

It is my hope that United States military action will not only free the world of the dangers posed by Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction, but provide an opportunity for the Iraqi people to free themselves from 30 years of tyranny and oppression, to begin a new chapter in the history of their country.

The current military action may only last a few days or a few weeks. But in the end, I have not doubt that our American service men and women will prevail in this conflict. However, after we emerge successfully from our military conflict with Saddam Hussein, another challenge will face us—the task of establishing a free and stable Iraq. In many ways this is an even more important battle than the one currently ongoing in the deserts of Iraq. And it is a battle that we should not "wage" alone. An international coalition of friends, allies, and U.N. humanitarian organizations must be mobilized to share the costs and responsibility for providing humanitarian relief to the Iraqi people, and the larger and more complex reconstruction of Iraqi society.

The United States is not the only nation that has a stake in rebuilding Iraq. The entire world has a huge stake in getting this right. For only an Iraq that is strong, free, and democratic—only an Iraq that respects the rights of all its citizens—only an Iraq that respects the territorial integrity of its neighbors—can be counted on to contribute to building a Middle East that is stable and prosperous. That is why I