

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
First Recruit Training Battalion
Recruit Training Regiment
Marine Corps Recruit Depot
San Diego, CA. 92140-5140**

July 28, 2006

My name is Gunnery Sergeant Richardson and I am the Senior Drill Instructor for Platoon 1026. I have been assigned to care for and train your young man for the next three months. I am responsible for leading and guiding this future Marine through the many challenging and demanding stages of his training. I will ensure that he puts forth his maximum effort. Through concerned and positive leadership I will help him develop a strong sense of pride, self-respect, confidence and a greater level of physical and mental endurance.

He is about to undergo a rigorous training cycle, which will test him both physically and mentally. The first phase of training takes place at Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD), San Diego, California. Training consists of physical training, close order drill, Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training, water survival qualification and an introduction to military life. Extensive classes on Marine Corps history, first-aid, military customs and courtesies and military law will be taught.

The second phase of training takes place at Camp Pendleton, California and consists of rifle marksmanship, field skills training and the Crucible. Upon returning to MCRD the last four weeks will consist of final tests, issuing the Service Uniforms, administrative procedures and preparation for duty in the Fleet Marine Force.

Your young man will be facing many obstacles and may experience periods of frustration, especially during first phase. Positive and encouraging letters from relatives and friends will greatly contribute to his morale and attitude. High morale and a positive outlook are assets for a solid foundation and attributes to successful training. Your role in maintaining his high morale and motivation which can benefit his positive development is vital and encouraged.

Again, I assure you that your young man is in good hands. My team of Drill Instructors and I will always use positive and concerned leadership in the course of training and development of your future Marine. Your role in helping to encourage and motivate him through letters is greatly appreciated. If you need to contact me you can write me at the same address as your son.

B.O. RICHARDSON