

February 13 - 1986

To the Principal; Teachers and Students of
Concord High School: -

I am sending you the letter from a friend of mine in London, England who is grieving over the death of Christa McAuliffe and all of the members of the Challenger.

Jim is about 35 years old and I have known his family since World War II. I wanted you to know how England feels over this tragic loss.

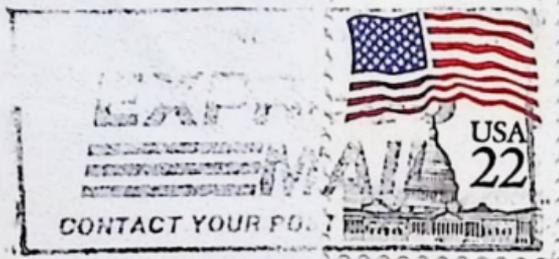
Accept also my sympathy but look forward, in time, to the God that might come of all sadness -

Sincerely,

Jane M. Donald
241 West Park Ave
Aurora, Illinois
60506

Please keep the letter. Jim would like that.

JANE McDONALD-
241 WEST PARK AVENUE
AURORA, IL 60506



*Letter from
England inside.*

Concord High School

Concord, New Hampshire.

03301

— TIM SMITH —

11 DIBDEN HOUSE

MAIDA VALE

HONDON W9

ENGLAND

29th JAN 82

Dear Jane and Family

I'm so sorry about the

horrific events of yesterday when America lost the 7 people in the space shuttle, let me put your mind at rest that all of us in England are praying for the people who died and their families, who witnessed such a disaster, we are all numb having seen it happen live on TV.

That such an horrific accident could happen after so many gutsy and brave men had already landed on the moon and brought space travel into the very homes of people all over the world is tragic. Please, please let all your friends know that we do care in England about America and what happens and we feel that with the deaths of the crew we feel as if we have lost our own countrymen.

I feel for the children of Christa McAuliffe they came over on TV as being very very proud of their mum and rightly so but to watch a dream shatter in front of them

eyes is about the cruelest thing that could happen to them.

Watching the TV this evening a young girl from her class was interviewed she spoke more sense than all the grown ups put together the words she came out with were straight from the heart.

she said, "I'm sorry Mrs McAuliffe can't come back to tell us what it was like in space, but she reached her goal, she flew in space even if it was only for a minute she achieved her ambition and if she knew she was going to be killed that way she would still have gone." And that's what it's about when you look at it. You must not stop because of death's we wouldn't have progressed at all if we had stopped when the first death occurred in a plane or car.

Don't stop progressing a lot of people rely on America, England including.

They are saying that it's to be compared to the murder of Kennedy. I don't know I was numb then but not as upset as I am now.

I'm so sorry don't despair.

Jim

AIRMAIL



POST OFFICE
POSTCODE

Jane McDonald

241 West Park Avenue

AURORA

ILLINOIS

60506

United States of
America

From: Jim Smith
" Diddis House
Maida Vale,
London W9,
England.

Keep or discard
June M. D. 1951
Aurora, Ill.