Poem ✓

Hollinger Elementary School
150 West Ajo Way
Tucson, Arizona 85713
Jan. 29, 1986

Mr. Charles Foley
Principal
Concord High School
Concord, New Hampshire

Dear Charles Foley,

We who work with young people in the schools share the sorrow that you and your teachers and students and community feel at the loss of your brave, idealistic teacher, Christa McAuliffe.

Please accept the enclosed poem as a token expression of my feelings and those of teachers in Arizona and all around the United States in tribute to her vision, her courage to take risks, and her dying doing what she wanted to do, reaching for more as a teacher and human being.

My heart goes out to you and all those who knew her, worked with her, and loved her.

Sincerely,
Sarah Barchas

In memory of Christa McAuliffe

by Sarah Barchas
1/28/86

She
was a <u>teacher</u>.
Not a trained scientist
or engineer,
But one who would
seek to shape the dreams
of future scientists
and engineers, and thinkers.
With buoyance,
with making of her life
a bright chain of discovery,
she sought that her students
should reach beyond themselves,
reach to the stars
seeking ever new heights.
And so did she
chosen
from eleven thousand
to be the one,
the first teacher to venture
into the immensity of space.
Like Icarus
who sought a new world of flight
with adventure, excitement, a pinnacle moment
in ill-fated upward stream,
She
only little more than a minute
after glorious intrepid realization
found herself caught with the six brave others,
trapped in the bursting
blasting devastation of the dream,
all, all in pieces.
Yet
she had not been afraid
to take risks,
to explore beyond her world, to seek more,
to live and die
doing what she wanted to do,
being what she wanted to be.
She
was a teacher.