

Far From Home:

WARTIME SEPARATION

CORPORAL PORFIRIO NAVARRO

WORLD WAR II | U.S. MARINE CORPS

LETTER FROM GABRIEL NAVARRO TO
HIS SON, PORFIRIO, JUNE 7, 1943



It has been one year to the day that, courageous and optimistic, full of faith and love of country, you left our side to join the armed forces of America. My heart stops beating when I think of death extending its wings over your head...

My son: you are missed in our home. There is a silence and a sadness because of your absence. Everything in the house reminds us of you. There are moments when it seems that we can hear your voice, singing your favorite songs. Your paintings, your sketches, your books, they all lie quietly where you left them upon your departure. They seem to move, impelled by invisible hands, to make more vivid, in my soul, the illusion of your presence...

*Photo credit: Corporal Porfirio Navarro, Collection of P. G. Navarro
Porfirio Navarro survived the war and came home uninjured.*

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