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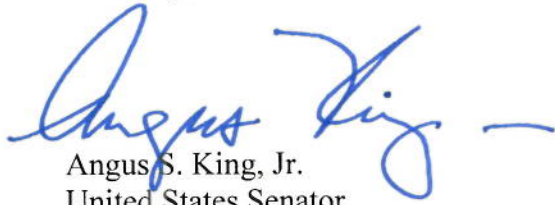
Charles Norman Shay
Indian Island, ME

Dear Mr. Shay,

On this hallowed day in our history as a Nation, I am humbled to join with voices in France and across the United States to honor your heroism on the occasion of the dedication of the Charles Shay Indian Park in Normandy, France. This park, overlooking Omaha Beach, is a tribute to all Native American soldiers who bravely advanced in the defense of the free world, despite grave peril and under tremendous enemy fire. The United States, and the world at large, are eternally indebted to this bravery, which established a strategic foothold in France and led to Allied victory on the Western Front.

While no words can truly thank you for the courage you showed as a medic on that beach, please know that this park will act as a timeless reminder to generations to come that democracy triumphed over tyranny—that good triumphed over evil—because soldiers, like you and your Native American comrades, selflessly served and sacrificed in the face of great odds in the D-Day invasion. The contributions of members of the Penobscot Nation and other Indian tribes who participated in this Allied invasion will never be forgotten. This park is a testament to your heroism and to the valor of your fellow servicemembers who fell in the line of duty, and I humbly join all those at the dedication, today, to express my deepest gratitude.

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator

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