

## February 21, 2017

Dear USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN-77) Moms-to-Be,

Barbara and I wish we could be with you on April 25<sup>th</sup> to pay our respects and to tell each one of you personally how excited and happy we are for you and your families.

Nothing compares to the thrill of the birth of a child; and whether it's your first child or your sixth child, the exhilaration is just as real. Of course, I think it's fair to say that since we Dads don't have to go through childbirth, we enjoy the experience a lot more!

Kidding aside, we Bushes share the excitement each of you is feeling as you anticipate the birth of your child. Unfortunately, many of you will bring your child into the world while your husbands are thousands of miles away working to ensure that the world in which their child grows up is peaceful and safe. That being the case, I hope you know that Barbara and I consider you family and are with you in spirit. We always remember our CVN-77 families in our prayers and with gratitude in our hearts.

I'm told that the theme of this baby shower is CAVU – Ceiling and Visibility Unlimited. Pilots pray for CAVU so they can easily identify anything in the path that would threaten a safe take-off or landing. Now, as you and your families prepare to be flung off the flight deck in the next exciting phase of your lives, I wish for you CAVU.

Have a great time at the shower hosted by my "First Mates," Nancy Sosa, Judi Marchand, Lana Westcott, Dana Miller, Anne Stoeckle, Sondra Haley, and Susan Biddle. And one last thing – send photos of the babies!

With family love and gratitude for your service,

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