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***PARENTS OF SLAIN PENNSYLVANIA SOLDIER WANT
CANDIDATES TO MEET THEM AT ARLINGTON CEMETERY***

Verona, PA -- The parents of a Pennsylvania soldier killed in Iraq want Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and John McCain to meet them at their son's grave in Arlington National Cemetery -- a grave they visit every month. Diane Santoriello of Verona, PA, said

"I challenge each presidential candidate to meet us at our son's grave in section 60 of Arlington Cemetery. I want them to stand at his grave and face the Memorial Bridge. I want them to see how many more soldiers have been laid to rest since he was buried in 2004. He was the 930th soldier killed. How many more rows need to be created before they say enough?"

Diane's husband Neil Santoriello added

"Politicians visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with great bravado. They need to stand in section 60 and hear the stories of the known- these exceptionally fine men and women who left this world all too soon. Instead of standing at the pristine site where the marble gleams in the sun, they need to stand with us in the mud as we kiss the marble of our son's tombstone. They share responsibility for the continuation of this war. They all talk of being commander-in-chief. I want to talk to them about ending the war, about taking care of the veterans, and about preventing another misguided war."

The Santoriello's son, 1st Lt. Neil Santoriello, served in the Army's 1 Division 34th Armored A company and was killed in action near Fallujah, Iraq on August 13, 2004. He was 24 years old. Diane Santoriello and the elder Neil Santoriello are both members of Gold Star Families Speak Out, a national chapter of Military Families Speak Out.

The couple has been frustrated with the failure of the three major party presidential candidates, all sitting Senators, to take action now to end the war in Iraq. Diane Santoriello said:

"I would like to see the presidential candidates utilize the leadership that they each claim to have. With each funding bill that the President signs, he is actually signing the death warrant for more soldiers and more Iraqi civilians. The Senate has the power to stop that death warrant from reaching his desk. Senator McCain, Senator Clinton, and Senator Obama all share responsibility for continuing this war. Senator Clinton, Senator Obama, Senator McCain, do you have the courage and honor to face up to the reality of section 60? If so give us the day and time and we will meet you there. (Leave the wreaths, the media and your staffers at the gate.)"

Diane and Neil Santoriello and other families from Pennsylvania and around the country whose loved ones died as a result of the war in Iraq are available for interview.

Military Families Speak Out (MFSO) is a national organization of over 3,800 families who are opposed to the war in Iraq and have loved ones who serve or have served in the military since the fall of 2002. Gold Star Families Speak Out is a national chapter of MFSO with families whose loved ones died as a result of the war.

For more information about Military Families Speak Out, please visit www.mfso.org ; for more information about the chapter Gold Star Families Speak Out see www.gsfsso.org