



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
2 NAVY ANNEX  
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

JRE  
Docket No: 5021-00  
11 June 2001



Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your late husband's naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 24 May 2001. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your husband's naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. In this regard, the Board noted that the military departments may separate or retire a service member by reason of physical disability only in those cases where the member is unfit to perform the duties of his office, grade, rank or rating at the time of separation or retirement. Although it is clear that your husband developed leukemia during the year following his release from active duty, there is no indication that he suffered from that condition prior to 13 March 1987, or that he was unfit for duty on that date. Unfortunately, the laws which permit the Department of Veterans Affairs to rate certain conditions which become disabling in the one-year period following a member's release from active duty do not apply to the military departments. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official

records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER  
Executive Director