

Dear Dojo,

Sorry I have not wrote yet. Recruit training has been getting the better of me. Finished Rifle Range and scored sharpshooter. I had to qualify in a tropical storm on the USMC Birthday. So they rushed us and I wasn't able to align my sights properly. The PT (physical training) and working out is intense.

I was pumped for the USMC Martial Arts Program. When we had the tournament, I took company.

Drill instructors are tough as hell. They destroy our bodies, ha ha. I miss karate so much. Wish I was able to do more classes before I left. Goju has basically the same principles as boot camp. Discipline is like the biggest thing. Having the ability to stand at attention for 6 hours or march with an MIGAY until your arms give out, showing no sign of tiredness or exhaustion.

Hope Johnny's doing good with the kids and Marianna's doing good with music.

I would like to personally thank you, Sensei. Everything you have taught me has helped me get through this. This place is freaking hell. Your mind goes insane and your body wants to give up. But you taught me not to give up and to be confident.

Joe