

August 17, 1964

Dear Mr. + Mrs Goodman,

I am a Queens College student, however, I had never met your son, Andy. I consider that to be my loss, for I know I would've been proud to know him.

I am writing you this note because it is something I feel I must do. Being Andy's age, I want you both to understand that I can understand what he did and why he did it. I realize that what he did, he did not only for the American Negro but for the white people as well. Andy died for those, who though they feel like he did, are afraid to act on their belief. It is for this reason that I have the utmost respect for your son. It is for this reason, too, that your loss touched my life so deeply.

I know that my words can't console you at this time. I can only hope that with time, the pride you must both feel for what your son stood for, can help you to bear your - and America's - loss.

Most sincerely,
Miss Elaine Hinkis