



**American Family Association
of
Pennsylvania**
P.O. BOX 1048, Franklin, PA 16323 Phone: (814) 271-9078
fax: (814) 437-5432 website: www.afaofpa.org e-mail: info@afaofpa.org

Flight 93 National Memorial
109 West Main Street, Suite 104
Somerset, PA 15501
Via Fax: 814.443.2180

January 12, 2009

Dear Ms. Hanley:

According to the Flight 93 National Memorial General Management Plan Summary on page 23 "The Temporary Memorial will be retained in situ as long as visitation does not conflict with the construction of the memorial, but in the long-term, this feature will be removed to open views of the Bowl and crash site. The location of the Temporary Memorial will be marked by benches along a trail extending through the Bowl."

One of the first items placed at the Temporary Memorial was a cross donated by the Somerset Christian Missionary and Alliance Church. This still remains a prominent part of the Temporary Memorial. Our question is: What will happen to the items still remaining at the temporary site when it begins to 'conflict with the construction of the memory.' Specifically will the cross remain or be removed?

The First Amendment of the Constitution says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." There should be no concern that allowing the cross to remain would cross the divide created by the so-called 'wall of separation of church and state.' A look at the First Amendment shows that 'wall of separation' language is not there. Additionally, crosses and other religious symbols are already present at national parks around the country.

Did you know that our State Capitol is filled with Scripture? Here are a few examples:

GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION ROOM

John 16:2 "Yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service."

* Isaiah 45:13 "He shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives."

SENATE CHAMBER

* Ezekiel 43:12 "This is the law of the house; the whole limit thereof shall be most holy."

* Ezekiel 44:4 "I looked, and, behold, the glory of the Lord filled the house"

HOUSE CHAMBER

* John 8:32 "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

* Deuteronomy 32:7 "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will show thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee."

SUPREME COURT

* Psalms 138:2 "Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."

* Exodus 20:13-17 [The text of the Ten Commandments.]

* Matthew 5:3-12 [The text of the Beatitudes.]

I understand that it is not your decision as to what stays or goes at the memorial, but please pass our concerns on to those who are the decision makers in this matter. **The cross needs to stay** as part of the final Flight 93 Memorial; that is the only way to truly show respect to the profound faith of Todd Beamer and others on that doomed flight.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Diane Gramley
President