

Name  
Address  
City, State, Zip

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

On behalf of the Secretary of Transportation and the entire department, I want to extend our sympathy to you and your family at this sad time.

The Department of Transportation considers highway safety its top priority. We are committed to building and maintaining safe highways for motorists and pedestrians. With safety as our goal, we are very concerned about the placement of roadside memorials along state highways. These memorials are often erected with the hope of warning motorists to be alert and to utilize safe driving practices. Unfortunately, memorials can often have the opposite effect by distracting drivers or creating a roadside and accident hazard.

It has come to our attention that a memorial has been placed on <location> and we must request it be removed within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you are unable to remove the memorial within 30 days, my staff will remove the items for you and bring them back to the maintenance office in <county> to be held for 30 days if you would like to pick them up.

The department encourages participation in the Adopt-a-Highway program as an option for families who would like to memorialize a loved one. A memorial planting program is also available. Enclosed is information on both of these programs. If you would be interested in hearing more about either of these programs, please complete the enclosed form, return it to the Department of Transportation at the address shown on the form and the appropriate NCDOT personnel will contact you.

Again, I offer my sympathy at this difficult time and if I can be of any assistance, please contact me at <telephone number>.

Sincerely,

Division Engineer

Enclosures

2/07/02