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The Editor
Easthampton Star
P. O. Box E
153 Main Street

Dear Editor:

I am writing in an effort to clarify some misunderstandings as stated by Mr. Robert J. Byrne in his letter to the Star in the Sept. 3, 1992 issue. I am not commenting on his opinions or on his right to express them.

However, Mr. Byrne quite cruelly questions "what kind of mother or widow could exploit her grief.....". Does he really believe this to be exploitation? Can he have any idea of the pain involved? In fact, it is meant to be a monument to the strength of these women's ability to go on with their lives as well as a reminder of the life and beauty that was senselessly lost to each of them.

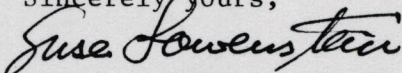
I would like to comment on a few additional points made, I believe, in error by Mr. Byre. It appears that he believes that 120 mothers and wives have done nothing in the past 3-1/2 years but pose for "DARK ELEGY". This is most certainly not the case. It might be of interest to note that most of these women are members of a group called The Victims of Pan Am Flight 103 whose stated purpose is threefold:

- 1- See to it that those criminals responsible for this act of mass murder are brought to justice.
- 2- To lend emotional support to one another within the group and,
- 3- To work for the improvement of aviation security in the U.S. and throughout the world.

Points 1 and 2 are more or less self explanatory. However it is point 3 of which Mr. Byrne seems to be unaware. This organization, of which my family is a charter member, has accomplished what most thought to be impossible. We were able to get the President to appoint a commission to look into the bombing of Pan Am flight 103. This Presidential commission wrote a report condemning the actions or lack thereof, of Pan Am, the FAA and the U.S. Dept. of State for not doing everything possible to avoid this tragedy from happening. We have lobbied in Washington to get legislation passed called the Aviation Security Act of 1990 which requires much more stringent handling of airport security. None of this can bring back the loved ones lost on Pan Am flight 103, but hopefully it will to stop another senseless attack on U.S. citizens flying anywhere in the world.

In closing it should be noted that an overwhelming majority of those that have seen "DARK ELEGY" have seen in it a positive expression of a tragedy that should never have happened.

Sincerely yours,



Suse Lowenstein