

*Cassie:*

*This is one of those letters that you hope you never have to write. The letter that says everything that I always meant to say to you but never had the courage to say. The letter that tries to explain that everything will be alright. The letter that tells you I'm dead.*

*You can never be told, for your safety and for Bobby's, what I did in the Air Force. Suffice it to say that for all the damage it did to our relationship, and to our family, that it was necessary.*

*I know at times I wasn't a good husband or father and for that I truly am sorry. Believe me when I tell you that many of the things that I did, I did for us. It could have been so much worse.*

*I hope Bobby will be old enough to understand, old enough to realize that his father was doing what a man has to do for his family.*

*Mostly, someone is going to tell you some lie about how I died, or how I was a hero.*

*I was no hero.*

*I've done terrible things and I will have to live - and die - with the knowledge of what I've done. I only hope you can forgive me. Now that I'm gone, you need to move on, for yourself and for Bobby. Just remember that I've always loved you and always will.*

*Love,  
Mark*