Gus Leaves 10-18-20 Sunday Emotions were high not because we weren’t proud because we were going to miss you, I personally wanted you to be an ass to me and act tough but you didn’t so I knew you were scared of what to expect. I know up till that day I had given you snippets of information but you were living your best life having fun and boot camp wasn’t something you wanted to think about. I hope the pizza I ordered for you was good and you noticed I threw in a desert. Maybe you are starting realize I may have not been wealthy and given you everything but I did do extras to make you feel cared about and loved.

I have to laugh at you about the watch. Mom I’m not going to wear that watch. I still packed it and then it got lost and you were stressed over the watch. Maybe Mom knows what you need sometimes.

10-19-20 Monday I have never talked to you so much on the phone in months. Mom was a Burden, just nagged and wanted you to do a chore or two around the house hence avoiding conversations with me LOL. I connected with the STG mom in Cary she was on a blog with me. Funny she didn’t know much and I told her you were contacting me from the airport and I was pretty sure her son was with you. I fell asleep waiting on your call Monday night Sophia was sleeping with me because we were both feeling weird about you being gone. She heard the phone, I answered and you sounded so relaxed in tone it made me feel good about where you were. Sophia said she could hear tons of people around you and she though you sounded like a robot lol.

10-20-20 Tuesday Rough day for everyone. Sophia sat in your car and cried. See even as much as you harassed her, she still misses you 😊 by this time, I have pictured you wearing Navy PT gear and learning who everyone is and figuring out who you like more than others. I read on the Blog that there was Snow on the ground. I am sure if that was true it was super odd to you. Somewhere I read you guys do yoga daily while in quarantine can’t wait to find out if that is true lol. I started cleaning out your closet today I found a ton of Gamer Magazines, I was going to use them for the fire and Sophia told me no she needed to check with the boys and find out if they were valuable. The boys told Sophia not to let me throw them out lol

Angels Mom touch based with me tonight appears she had a rough day. Funny how you have only been gone a day and we are all feeling like it’s been months. Weather you realize it or not your Energy was super high all the time and your personality strong. Your friends and Angle were so driven by you to move and do things. I told Angel if she wants to come over tomorrow and spend time with Sophia she can. I told her its ok to be Sad and miss you.

10-21-20 Wednesday Tyrek sent me a message with just Emoji’s. That kid was so sweet a huge Teddy Bear, I truly hope he starts to find his path. I know he feels trapped with his sick grandma. I sent him a message that I was sure you were planning a party already for when you get to visit slip and slide and all, he responded I will be there. Fed posted the picture of you, Andrew and Fed. I guess he wasn’t to upset about the drawing on his head. *His post said Kids Next Door Forever, best of luck to my brother in his time away from the village ily Gus see you around homie.* I checked in with Angle told her your schedule has Yoga on it daily she said you use to make fun of her for doing yoga. go figure

10-22-2020 Thursday Your Dad keeps sending me weather reports and random pictures of Fort McCoy. He is like it is super cold there while we are still enjoying 80-degree weather. I have slowly been getting your room organized you have a lot of stupid weird stuff. I’m going to let the boys help me figure out what is crap and what is not. So, you will get a giggle out of me walking by your room last night and the hall light was working. I was so freaked out like an intervention from God. Sophia told me you knew it was working, I was about to call an electrician in to fix it! The electrician in my office said its not a fire hazard that its most likely to do with the light switch. Biden and Trump are debating tonight not sure if you get to watch it, you know I will like it’s a sporting event.

So, you know every day gets a little easier you being gone, one I have never slept so well not worrying about your coming and going. I think that helps with the emotions I don’t know why I miss you so much you drove me crazy daily with constant activity but not the activities I needed help with lol. I’m taking everything day by day and just praying you have some serious inner strengths to help you get through basic😊

10-23-2020 Friday A young man named Nico you traveled with and will go to San Diego with mom reached out to me today. She is super sweet and we are going to stay connected. Navy mom’s need each other kind of like some of your boy’s moms always stayed in touch with me. Nico graduated with a lot of accolades he is super smart! Pick him as your study buddy😊

Its Friday and you have now been gone from home 6 days. You have never been gone from me this long. I know your probably thinking I wouldn’t let you go away for this long lol. I was crazy protective of you because you are a dare devil and have zero fear. I did though give you a space to have fun and be free. You came and went as you pleased and I stop tracking you like 6 months before you left. Its hard being a single mom Gus and know how you turn out as an adult is a reflection on how I raised you. One day you’ll get it! If people can say one thing about me is that I Loved my kids like crazy and they were raised to be decent human beings.

No big plans this weekend, Angel is coming over tomorrow after a funeral and helping me deep clean your room. Your sister and I keep checking in with her to make sure she is doing ok, your sister has been a little down to, she says the best times she had with you before you left would be when you would drive her places and talk to her about deep stuff. I know your age difference puts you in different places in life right now but you will learn that she will be your best friend one day and you and her will lean on each other for life choices. Its hard to see right now but look at Uncle Greg’s relationship with me.

10-24-2020 Saturday Your Dad came over this morning as he does every weekend wanting to watch YouTube video’s on Navy Boot Camp. He said I just want to be a fly on the wall watching him and seeing what he is doing. I know your Dad wish’s he had taken a Military route he talk’s often how he would study the airplanes instead of for tests in the Library during college. I know your Dad is a mess and your early child hood wasn’t easy due to his behavior. I want you to know he does love you in the way he knows how and we can’t hold against him how he acted when you were young. I know you have a hard time believing in depression but I think he has issues with his mom how she was never loving or supportive. What your Dad tends to forget is Grandpa Dick over compensated for what he was missing with his mom. You know I divorced him because I couldn’t take care of him and you two. I also didn’t want you growing up in an angry house around parent who didn’t love each other the way a couple should. I hope though that at least me having a friendship with your Dad was so you would have a healthy relationship with him

10-25-2020 Sunday Today Angel, Sophia and I cleaned out your room. It is the cleanest it has ever been! I still need to fix the closet door, hole in the wall and that side panel but it’s getting there. I want to replace the carpet in that room hopefully by Christmas😊 I know definitely by the time you come home to visit. WE had fun talking about what a maniac you are and how as much as we all miss you; I do have my moments where I get angry with some memories. I truly hope this time is giving you time to think about your family and that all we wanted was to love you and make you feel loved. I also get that 17-18 can be pretty selfish year for a teen age boy were you’re just trying to live your best life possible.

10-26-2020 Monday Back to work and it is now it has been a week since I have talked you. I’m sure you are thinking how has my mom not figured out how to smuggle a message in or a phone call because I am such a nagging pain. Sophia back in tumbling today and I have negotiated her attending school during B group so she can be with her friends and Ran can take her to and from school. Kiera spent the day and night at our house the house is super quiet without your friends coming and going 😊

10-27-2020 Tuesday I heard today a boy in quarantine was able to call home due to a memorization skill. His mom said he was very upbeat and talked about the food being really good. Positive messages help me through this process that hopefully you are making cool new friends for a lifetime and at the same time embracing this experience. Jake texted me talk about the apprenticeship program I told him about I sent him the info but I think he is still figuring himself out and what route he wants to go. Angel told me he talked to an Army recruiter last week. I truly hope he starts to get it together he is a good kid just needs something to inspire him into a direction. Angel told me his parent took his car because his insurance had gone up so high and they are making him get and pay for his own insurance. Alleigh was over today spent the afternoon carving pumpkins with Sophia and doing homework. They were trying to be funny and showed me some weird WHOP dance. Sisters friends are keeping her busy... I asked her tonight why do I miss you so much and she said I don t know Mom its not like he was spending time with us before he left lol You were a lot of energy in my house good and bad. I’m just glad I gave you space to be yourself and create lots of fun memories with your friends even though I set boundaries all your friends felt like your house was a safe space.

10-28-2020 Wednesday Sophia and I went to the dentist today Doctor Mellace told me how confident you were in the choice to join the Navy and to tell you hello and how noble your decision is to serve. Your sister thank God had no cavities. Today I tried calling your sister and it went straight to voicemail. Her friends were freaking out thought it was super weird I sent Nana over to see what was going on and she said all the front doors were locked so she was banging on the door and Sophia came up behind her and went BOO! Nana was like she about gave me a heart attack... Her phone was dead and she was on the trampoline.

10-29-2020 Thursday Sophia carpooled with Ran today I gave her a self-defensive lesson in the case he made a move on her. She thought I was crazy but I told her better safe then sorry! His family seems very nice and Ran seems like a good kid just super ADHD like you were. I found out today you will get tested for Covid and if you test negative or someone you are in contact with regularly does you will do an additional ROM, If you are clear and no negative results you move on to RTC and start P days. I have my ringer on high but praying I don’t get a call from you and you move on to the next process. Please don’t think we are not thinking of you and want you to do well and not feel homesick but embrace the suck and make the most of this process. I really hope there are zero setbacks because you are getting ready to learn some cool stuff. When I see the pictures of the Recruits jumping off the high dive it makes me think of you at age 3 jumping off the high dive at UNCW swim lessons. I was pregnant with Sophia and I remember telling the instructors they were going to throw me into early labor. You are fish in water natural swimmer you will probably just enjoy being back in the water when they test you on your swimming.

10-30-2020 Friday So yesterday afternoon I had heard a Supervisor in the women’s barracks got covid forcing additional quarantine for some women who entered the same week as you. Weather you realize it or not I have my phone glued to me in the case you call with crappy news. I really don’t want to get that call! I also read last night that a DI made a recruit call home yesterday and tell his mom he was a trash child and a looser. I told Sophia she may have to start answering my phone, she said hand it over nothing Gus hasn’t heard me yell at him before😊 I asked Sophia how it was riding with Ran and she said its like riding with Gus he plays his Music loud and sings. She did tell me Ran has become friends with Marshal that boy who didn’t want Gus to date Angle lol. She has her first boy girl party tonight for Halloween. She is wearing a super short skirt to go with an Incredibles outfit. She claims it’s no shorter than her cheer skirts. I am hoping to get a paint picked out and start painting the hall ways and the living room. I have been looking at light grays with a hint of blue. Now that your friends are coming and going, I can paint and the house can start to not look bulldozed daily by boys. Plus you know how I have to be keep busy so I’m not worrying about you.. Also, so you know I am aware that no news is good news during basic it means you’re moving forward with no setbacks. I pray daily you have no setbacks and soon enough you will be playing on your new PS5 decompressing yelling at your friends. I’m also aware god has a path for us all and if there are set backs we will get through them.