Office of the Secretary of the Navy 1000 Navy Pentagon Washington, DC 20350

Dear Mister Secretary:

I wish to formally and respectfully request that the Secretary of the Navy name a future United States Ship, SARATOGA.

There have been six warships designated SARATOGA, beginning with an 18-gun sloop in 1780 through the CV-3, a WWII era carrier (sunk at Bikini Atoll - July 1946), to the most recent version, the CVA-60/CV-60 (decommissioned August 1994). All six United States Navy Ships named SARATOGA served our nation with pride and distinction.

I believe that there are facets of the last two versions of the SARATOGA (CV-3 and CV-60) that would make a good framework for a future version of the SARATOGA.

- Having an "organic" Marine element, as the aircraft carriers had a Marine Corp element aboard.
- Have a Navy/Marine Corp Aviation element, in keeping with the aviation tradition.
- And, in continuing to honor the famous Revolutionary War battle, it should be a combatant ship.

With that said, I believe that an amphibious platform, possibly one of the Navy's new America-class LHA Replacement platforms, would be well-suited to carry on the name SARATOGA.

I hope that you will consider returning this proud name to active duty in the US Navy fleet.

Respectfully yours,