

Letter written by Corporal Robert Bertrand, 407th Infantry Regiment, fallen on the field of honor in Artois, 28 September 1915

Source: **La dernière lettre écrite par des soldats français tombés au champ d'honneur 1914-1918**

Dear Parents

When you receive this card, I will no longer be of this world. I am writing you a few moments before the attack, and it is not without emotion that I am talking with you for the last time.

I have charged a faithful friend to give this to you; he will also tell you about my last hours of my life.

A recommendation: don't write anyone to get information about me because someone could find out that it was my friend who told you about my death, and that is formally forbidden.

My dear parents, with a heavy heart I think about all the benefits that you have given me, and that a life this short prevents me from repaying you.

I embrace you with all of my heart, loved ones, and when I am up above, close to dear grand-mama, I will watch over you as she watches over us.

Don't forget us in your prayers and do not be discouraged by this misfortune; it's destiny.

Let everyone that you talk to about me know that I have done my duty in preventing the invader from coming near to you.

I happily give my life, thinking, in a way, to redeem all the sacrifices you have been imposed on you

Don't cry much over me, but think about me.

And so, duty calls me, and I go. One more time some big kisses.

Long Live France!
Robert