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U.S. Capitol Commission
Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

To the U.S. Capitol Commission,

My name is José M. Mendoza Guevara. I recently read today's edition of the Culpeper Star-Exponent and had seen that the commission was accepting recommendations for a new statue to replace General Robert E. Lee's existing one in the U.S. Capitol. I know that this recommendation has already been submitted, but I urge the commission to greatly consider having **General Lewis "Chesty" Puller** erected as a statue.

General "Chesty" Puller is possibly the most revered leader in the history of the U.S. Marine Corps. I myself served in the Marines and know just how important of a figure he is to a lot of people. He served his country bravely in the Pacific theater during World War II, fighting valiantly alongside the 7th Marines through the islands of Guadalcanal and Peleliu. A man who did not waver from the battlefield and knew the strengths of the Marines under his charge, Chesty Puller was a proud Marine, a proud Virginian, and a true leader of men.

I cannot think of any greater person to replace General Lee's statue as a representation of our beautiful state. General "Chesty" Puller was born and died on Virginian soil and I believe it would be fitting of the state to recognize this legendary man for his remarkable service to his country and his near-mythical placement amongst the U.S. Marines by erecting a statue to represent Virginia in his honor.

I thank the commission for allowing the public to submit suggestions for this replacement and thank you for the time taken in reading this letter from a humble and proud Virginian.

Very respectfully,



José M. Mendoza Guevara