August 30, 2018

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We are women who attended Yale College with Brett Kavanaugh. We came to Yale from different walks of life and have taken different paths since college. Our political viewpoints are as varied as our backgrounds and careers. We are united in expressing our admiration and respect for our friend, Brett.

Before he was a lawyer and a judge, Brett was an excellent student, a dedicated basketball player, and a great friend. He earned top grades, but was always humble; he never showed off his obvious brilliance or acted arrogantly. He was kind, accessible, and had a quick sense of humor. Brett was and remains a loyal friend to us and to many of our classmates.

Brett treated us as friends and equals in all respects. Many of us played varsity sports at Yale. His appreciation of the importance of women’s athletics was impressive at that time. It clearly is something he has carried forward to the present day, with his years of coaching girls’ basketball teams and his raising two daughters who are enthusiastic athletes and sports fans.

In the years since we graduated from Yale, we have gathered at reunions to reconnect with our classmates. Brett has attended those events enthusiastically and spoken on panels about his government service. Audience members of diverse viewpoints have been impressed with Brett’s graciousness, thoughtfulness, and insights. That is simply the Brett we have known since college. Yes, he has held many important positions, but Brett has stayed true to himself. He is immensely generous, intelligent, and warm.
We will leave it to others to speak to Brett’s record as a public servant. We speak to his record as a truly exceptional person. We are proud to call him our friend.

Sincerely,

Gayle Connors Dargan ’87          Yumi Ozawa ‘87
Lisa Gollob Finke ’87              Helen Healey Rice ’87
Leslie Farenkopf Foley ’90         Carolyn Ballan Wasserman ‘87
Louisa Gerritz Garry ’87           Suzanne Woods ‘88
Iffie Okoronkwo M.D. ’87           Karen Yarasavage ‘87