

CONDITIONS FOR PORTRAITURE

For Rachel Corrie, April 10, 1979 ---March 16, 2003

If you stand for
something
after you have been
dead for 10 years
you are eligible for
a commemorative stamp
to bear
your likeness.

In fine print the us.gov web site
releases
its criteria for submitting postal
designs.

Just a few more years to go
for Rachel Corrie
student from the Evergreen State
who stood up for
housing rights in Palestine.

She was bulldozed
by a colorblind heavy
equipment operator.

Her story clogged the media
with black and white
photos reminding viewers of
Tiananmen's citizen indelible and still
upright in peoples' memory.

Her waif figure female and vested
in construction worker's orange
boggled readers when the news fit
to print the editorials and interviews
followed by letters and testimonials
from parents and faculty who agreed
not a wild streak in this kid or
from her classmates whose calligraphy
banned their *salaam* in kohl on white muslin
across archways of her campus.

Joan Maiers
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