The original documents are located in Box C2, folder "Hatfield, Mark O." of the Gerald and Betty Ford Special Materials Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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MARK O. HATFIELD OREGON



United States Senate

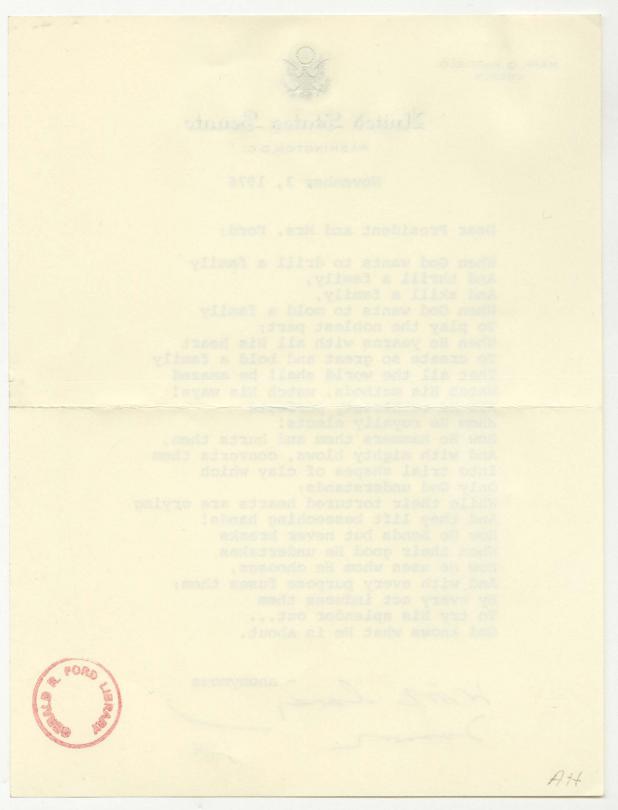
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 3, 1976

Dear President and Mrs. Ford:

When God wants to drill a family And thrill a family, And skill a family, When God wants to mold a family To play the noblest part; When He yearns with all His heart To create so great and bold a family That all the world shall be amazed Watch His methods, watch His ways! How He ruthlessly perfects Whom He royally elects! How He hammers them and hurts them. And with mighty blows, converts them Into trial shapes of clay which Only God understands; While their tortured hearts are crying And they lift beseeching hands! How He bends but never breaks When their good He undertakes How He uses whom He chooses, And with every purpose fuses them; By every act induces them To try His splendor out ... God knows what He is about.

With love - anonymous Com



A MARK O. HATFIELD

Car

Anited States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 9, 1976

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

Dear Mr. President:

During your tenure in office, you restored public trust in the Presidency and once again gave Americans a sense that their government is run by decent and honorable men. That contribution to the strength of our democratic institutions cannot be underestimated, and I believe it will be recorded as the hallmark of your term in the White House. As a pluralistic society, Americans may differ widely on public policies, and may declare those differences at the ballot box. Yet, Americans are united in the esteem and affection in which they hold you and your family, sentiments which Antoinette and I very strongly share.

You leave Mr. Carter an office much stronger than the one which you found. You leave America a unity of spirit that is in sharp contrast with the torn fabric you faced two years ago. Like your Presidency, your campaign was conducted in a forthright and honorable way. From both the Administration and the campaign, you have a great deal of which you can be proud.

Your contribution to American political life need not and should not terminate next January 20th. I think specifically of President John Quincy Adams, whose first love was the House of Representatives, and who returned there to serve with distinction after leaving the White House. You could follow a similar course of action, and I would encourage you to do so. I think also of President Grover Cleveland, whose first Presidency was terminated, but who once again sought the people's mandate and was rewarded with another term in the White House. For you to take such a step would not be unprecedented and would be an act of substantial benefit to this nation.

Even if you do not again seek political office, I hope you will remain active in public matters and in the reconstruction of the Republican Party. You are by nature a planner and a healer, and both in the party and in the country, we have a lot of work left to do.

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I hope to see you often in the years ahead so that we may further enrich the friendship we have built, and so that I may continue to benefit from your personal warmth and wise counsel.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely, -----

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford The White House Washington, D.C. 20500 I hope to see you often in the years ahead so that we may further enrich the friendship we have built, and so that I may continue to benefit from your personal warmth and wise counsel.

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