The original documents are located in Box C3, folder "Martin, John B." of the Gerald and Betty Ford Special Materials Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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JOHN B. MARTIN 7607 GLENDALE ROAD CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20015 A. C. 301 652-6629

November 9, 1976

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The Honorable Gerald R. Ford The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

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Den Her John

Dear Jerry:

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

Helen and I want you and Betty to know how sad we are that the voters were unwise enough to take another than yourself as President of the United States. You conducted an enormously forceful campaign, coming from behind, and deserved to have the excellence of that campaign and your leadership as President acknowledged.

Having been through a few elections myself, I know that the disappointment is sharp and that there is a particular sense of loss in being unable to complete a job which you were handling so successfully and so much to the benefit of the country as a whole. We think you have carried out your responsibilities in the very best Republican tradition and that you have nothing to be sorry for in the way in which your campaign was run and the appeal which you made to the voters. In the outcome the country is the loser.

We hope that you and Betty and the family will remain in Washington and that we will have the opportunity to see you from time to time in the future to maintain the friendship which began so long ago in Grand Rapids when we first ran for public office.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

PERSONAL

Read C.S. 12/17

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