

The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “American Film Institute Life Achievement Award, Los Angeles, California, March 9, 1976” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE DINNER

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1976

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

WHEN I WAS A GIRL GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL

I NEVER DREAMED OF GROWING UP

AND BEING MARRIED TO A PRESIDENT.

BUT MY DREAM OF A LIFETIME WAS GOING TO HOLLYWOOD

AND GLIDING ACROSS A POLISHED FLOOR WITH FRED ASTAIRE.

SO YOU SEE HOW FORTUNATE I FEEL

TO BE HERE TONIGHT.

BECAUSE OF THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES,
I'VE DANCED AND LAUGHED AND CRIED
MY WAY THROUGH SEVERAL LIFETIMES.
AND IT'S A SPECIAL TREAT
TO JOIN THIS SALUTE TO WILLIAM WYLER---
ONE OF THE WIZARDS OF THE BUSINESS.

LIKE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE,
THE PRESIDENT AND I LOVE THE MOVIES.
MOVIES LIGHT THE CANDLE OF IMAGINATION---
ENRICH OUR DREAMS---
AND EXPAND OUR UNDERSTANDING.

MAY WE ALWAYS BE A LAND
THAT LOVES MAKE-BELIEVE AND STORYTELLERS---
LIKE THE MAN WE HONOR TONIGHT.

THANK YOU.

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