The original documents are located in Box 16, “9/15/75 - Remarks at the Katherine Graham Dinner in Honor of Mr. Carroll Kilpatrick (Draft only)” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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SEPT. 16, 1975

MR. PRESIDENT

ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT ANTICIPATED THAT YOU WILL MAKE REMARKS TONIGHT, THE ATTACHED HAVE BEEN PREPARED AS A CONTINGENCY.

TERRY
REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT AT THE KATHERINE GRAHAM DINNER FOR CARROLL KILPATRICK, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1975

Tonight we pay tribute to a man who --- many, many years ago went to the Post --- and has now crossed the finish line a real winner --- Carroll Kilpatrick.

When I first read about Carroll's retirement. I think it was in The Ear .....I couldn't help but reflect on Carroll's long and distinguished career.

As one of the elder statesmen of his profession, Carroll Kilpatrick is well known for the way he has always offered youngsters in the business the wisdom of his years and his sage and perceptive advice. I understand that Sally Quinn --- can never thank Carroll enough for his suggestion:

"Why not try television? What could go wrong?"

I think Katherine Graham, in a sentimental moment, put it rather well. She told me that in the front office, Carroll Kilpatrick is (more)
known as a man with a very big talent. In the Editorial Department, as a man with a very big reputation. And in the Accounting Department, as a man with a very big expense account.

Who can ever forget that time at the Miami Convention when Carroll filled out his expense account and put down $200 for miscellaneous? Which really surprised the other correspondents. They thought her name was Shirley.

I guess the thing that bothers me most is that Carroll retired after making that trip to New Hampshire with last Thursday. I'd hate to think twenty-four speeches in eleven hours had anything to do with it.

On the flight back, Carroll came up to my cabin on Air Force One --

and while they were bringing in the can-opener to get me out of my vest, . . . .

He asked me if there were any after-effects to my doing twenty-four speeches in one day. Well, I said no -- but for the record, it did cause one minor after-effect.

(more)
When I got back to the White House, I went down to the kitchen to get a midnight snack. I opened the door to the refrigerator, the light shined on me and from force of habit I did three more speeches!

Carroll, I do want you to know how much I have valued and enjoyed our friendship through the years. I understand this won't be a total retirement for you, but rather, in the future you will be working at your own pace.

So I hope to continue seeing you at the White House and wish you many healthy, happy and fulfilling years ahead. On behalf of our entire White House staff, let me say that all of our good wishes go with you.

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