

NOVEMBER 6, 1975

----- THE WHITE HOUSE -----  
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford  
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO MR. MAURICE F. GRANVILLE, CHAIRMAN,  
1975 FAMILY OF MAN ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER, THE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
OF NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 6, 1975

Dear Mr. Granville:

I deeply regret that I am unable to be present at tonight's dinner to accept in person the Family of Man Medallion with which you have so graciously and so generously honored me. As President, I aspire to merit the faith you are demonstrating in my leadership during this trying period of American history.

It is particularly gratifying to me that my wife could attend and accept your award on my behalf--especially so because of her long-standing affinity for the people of New York and your city's cultural and spiritual qualities.

I will reasure this medallion as a symbol of the noble cause served by you--the many distinguished community leaders present and all the other people of the great metropolitan center of New York who are devoted to the family of man.

It is my understanding that the resources you have generated are used to support the Christian Service of the Council of Churches of the city of New York. This worthy commitment is in full harmony with the highest humanitarian aspirations of the people of New York and your spiritual leaders. You have held forth a torch of inspiration to the world--a symbol of compassion and freedom.

When I swore a sacred oath as the 38th President of the United States on August 9, 1974, I said that "America will remain strong and united, but its strength will remain dedicated to the safety and sanity of the entire family of man..."

Today, New York is a family of man in the truest sense--a family which heeds a religious vision and stands guardian over every one of the city's children, the elderly, the poor, the disadvantaged, and all those created by God.

You have enriched human existence in America's greatest city. I gratefully accept your award in a spirit of humility and will strive to be worthy of your trust.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford

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