

September 7, 1966

Dear Ivan,

I want you to know that Bill and I are thankful for you. For your extraordinary courage, for your leadership, for your sense of justice, we thank you.

These are difficult times. I realize that it is people like me who have "waked up" late to the bitterness in the Negro race (I have started a sentence that I can't handle grammatically!)—anyway I know we've brought this about by not listening sooner to their feelings.

We are fortunate to have a
Mayor who is committed to
bringing about harmony and
dispelling discord and strife.

I just can't let this day go
by without telling you that we
are praying for you and we
are grateful to you. I hope that
we can do our small part
in bringing about peaceful
relationships with all people -
thereby helping you in this
great task of being Mayor of
all Atlanta.

Sincerely and
with love,
Alice Presely