

1174 Zimmer Drive, N. E.  
Atlanta, Georgia  
September 8, 1966.

Dear Ivan:

There are many reasons why I value your friendship so highly. Foremost among these, of course, is the fact that your father was one of my staunchest supporters during the many years I was with the Atlanta Retail Merchants Association. He was a great encouragement to me and stood behind me in everything I did.

I shall remember always that you cancelled an out-of-town engagement to be the speaker at the testimonial given Reba and me by the Association shortly before my retirement. That alone would endear you to me forever.

Then you had the vision and courage to give Atlanta Big League Baseball and Football. Baseball is my favorite sport, and it is wonderful to have the opportunity to see right here in Atlanta all of the best baseball players in the world. And when Atlanta gets into a World Series, as I believe she will within the next few years, I just hope I shall be fortunate enough to see some of those games.

Just recently you have conducted yourself magnificently in connection with the Firemen's Strike; and what now appears to have been a Castro-inspired riot, through some hot-headed revolutionaries in our midst.

Well, there are many other reasons, and I just felt, in a time of great stress, that you should be told your friends are standing solidly behind you in your efforts to make our beloved Atlanta a beacon-light city for all to see.

Cordially & Sincerely



L. L. Austin.