

1147 Wild Creek Trail, NE.

Atlanta, Ga. 30324

Oct. 3, 1966

Dear Mayor Allen,

From a very ordinary citizen comes a letter of admiration for the way you refused to go along with all the others with the nomination of Lester Maddox. When you were praised for your courageous action during the recent riots, you were spoken of as the mayor with "guts." If anyone had any doubts about the amount of "guts" you possessed, he should have none left now. For, to me, it took more courage to denounce this man than to stand on top of a car and face the unruly mob (no small trick, *in ITSELF*, mind you). But, here, you did not go along with the BIG BOYS. When it came your turn, you stood up and said, "No Thanks, I'm not having any."

This must be a bitter pill for you to swallow. I'm sure you have worked so hard to bring Atlanta up to the high standard and reputation she now enjoys. I, too, believe that Georgia will take a giant step backward, and what a shame! She has so much going for her. I feel a great many people are looking to you for some kind of leadership right now. If you "go fishing" on Election Day, you can bet that lake is going to be very crowded with fellow fishermen. All democrats who now stand adrift, betwixt and between, need you to show them the way. What a challenge to lead, but, you, Sir, are the man for the job.

Most sincerely,

*(Mrs) Virginia Davis*