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President)  
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020620

4680

4200

GI002

PR003

April 14, 1981

TR

Dear Mr. McCree:

Thank you for remembering us in such a thoughtful way. We wanted you to know how much we appreciate your kindness and that we look forward to enjoying your handcrafted ornament.

Nancy joins me in sending you our best wishes.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN A

Mr. Harold McCree  
Route 8, Box 50  
Fort Myers, Florida 33909

RR/AVH/MP/smf--  
PG-2

Gift - frame

810415

Date 4-9-81

GIFT UNIT

Letter # PG 2

Fill-in: your handcrafted  
ornament.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Initial: J



Insured NO8 0120053

Rte. 8 - Box 50,  
Fort Myers, Fla.  
33909  
Feb. 12/81

Dear Mr. President & Nancy:-

I received from "Americans for Reagan" (Jesse Helms) one of the enclosed photos. I requested more to make this bead frame for you and myself.

I have a Craft Shop now, although I am a retired A.F.L. Pipefitter and after making one, I hung it up in my shop, waiting to send it to you after you were settled in the White House, but someone shoplifted it and so I made another one for you.

The newspaper article was written about the Jan. meeting of the Republican Club of Matlacha-Pine Island, of which I am Vice-President and Program

2

Chairman. That is me in the  
plaid jacket.

I hope you both enjoy the  
Christmas tree ornament, as  
much, as I enjoyed it.

I learned to make it at the  
Chicago Craft & Hobby Convention,  
last Summer. Do Do Sales, Inc.,  
of Seffner, Fla. designed the frame.

I believe, as the Astrologer said,  
"That you are the Man for the  
Country." I have thought that from  
the beginning and supported you  
all the way through, as well as my  
intended Lady, Anne Hughes, has.  
Her husband, a Shriner, passed away  
9 years ago and my wife 6 years ago.  
I also am a Shriner. 70 years old,  
as of Dec. 11/80.

Love to both,  
Harold M<sup>c</sup> Cree



April 14, 1981

020621

4720

4610

GI002

PP010-02

RE010

RE002

CH

To the University of Maryland  
Football Team

I was delighted to receive the autographed football and the sweatshirts that you kindly brought to the hospital. These thoughtful gifts were displayed in my room and encouraged me daily.

*Gift*

Many thanks to you and the University of Maryland Basketball Team for your special concern.

Sincerely,

**RONALD REAGAN** A

SENT TO:

The University of Maryland  
Football Team  
c/o Jerry D. Claiborne  
University of Maryland Football Office  
Cole Field House  
College Park, Maryland 20742

RR/AVH/MP/CMF-smf--



WHITE HOUSE GIFT REGISTER

Date Received: 2 April, 1981 Accepted By: Rick Alcazar

Name of Donor: Univ. of Maryland Football Team

Title: % Jerry D. Clairborn - Head Coach

Address: University of Maryland Football ~~Team~~ Office  
Cole Field House Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Presented By: College Park, Maryland 20742

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_ Other (Name): Team as a whole

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Circumstances of Presentation: brought to G.W.U. Hospital  
by football players (4) - shirts presented on  
behalf of basketball team by football players.

Brief Description of Gift: Football signed by team and  
coaches + 2 basketball team sweatshirts

Gift Intended For:

President:  First Lady: \_\_\_\_\_ President & First Lady: \_\_\_\_\_

Other First Family Member (Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Other (Name): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgement:

Copy Attached: \_\_\_\_\_ To Be Handled By Gift Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Only for President and/or First Lady)

Disposition: To White House Gift Unit, Room 62, OEOB Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Report Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments:

Not rec'd. in Gift Unit



# Picture Frame Gallery

ROUTE 202 • BOX 75 • LAHASKA, PENNSYLVANIA 18931 • (215) 794-7022

February 9, 1982

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20000

Dear President Reagan:

Enclosed, please find copy of photo depicting presentation of the Grover C. Alexander watercolor in March of 1981.

We are extremely proud to have been a part of this important occasion in your life. We will frame the lovely color photo and place it in our Gallery in a prominent place of honor.

Continued good health.

Sincerely,

Eve Bianco  
eb/encl.

020672

*File* GF002

KR 4/13/81

40  
6 0  
2  
*Office*

*SLR*





## Official framer

President Ronald Reagan is presented an original watercolor of Grover Cleveland Alexander, a role he emulated some time ago, by the president of the Baseball Hall of Fame. The watercolor was framed by the Picture Frame Gallery of Lahaska, the official framers for the Hall of Fame.

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AP Wirephoto by AP Wirephoto



020622

4720

4200

TR

GT002

50003

RE001

April 13, 1981

Dear Mr. Stack:

It was a unique pleasure to welcome you and so many Baseball Hall of Famers to the White House. I was so pleased to join you over lunch and to reminisce about old times with such big leaguers. It was just like spring training, and I am grateful to everyone who made this such a memorable occasion.

Gift >

I want to thank you once more for the framed watercolor of Grover Cleveland Alexander, the lifetime Pass to the Hall of Fame, and the collection of baseball cards which you presented to me. These thoughtful remembrances are truly appreciated, and I will treasure them particularly for the friendship they represent.

With my very best wishes to you and to the special "32",

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN \*

Mr. Edward W. Stack  
President  
National Baseball Hall of Fame  
and Museum, Inc.  
Cooperstown, New York 13326

RR/AVH/MP/CMF--smf--

8

810415



# NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL of FAME and MUSEUM, INC.

COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK 13326

PHONE 607/547-9988



EDWARD W. STACK  
President  
STEPHEN C. CLARK, JR.  
Vice President  
WILLIAM T. BURDICK  
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H. GREGORY LIPPITT  
LELAND S. MAC PHAIL, JR.  
ALLAN H. SELIG

Member National Baseball Hall of Fame

Elected 1938

Presented to the President of the United States  
at The White House luncheon for Baseball Hall of Famers  
March 27, 1981 as a gift from the National Baseball Hall  
of Fame and Museum, Inc., Cooperstown, N.Y. and the  
Perez-Steele Galleries, Inc., Fort Washington, PA

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PETER P. CLARK  
Curator  
THOMAS F. MULHERN  
Merchandising Director

Artist: Dick Perez, 1980



# COOPERSTOWN COMES TO THE WHITE HOUSE



United Press International

Duke Snider, left, and Willie Mays listen intently as President Reagan tells a baseball story during White House luncheon for 32 members of the sport's Hall of Fame.

By Thomas Boswell  
Washington Post Staff Writer

"Gentlemen, go ahead with your coffee and all," said the president of the United States, his face beaming with pleasure as he spoke to his guests in the State Dining Room of the White House yesterday.

"I can't tell you how thrilled I am to have you here . . . to look at your faces, you span the years for me . . . The nostalgia is bubbling in me. They may have to drag me out of here," said Ronald Reagan.

"He wasn't kidding," Joe DiMaggio said later. "He really didn't want to get off. He'd have stayed up there telling stories for another hour. I was sitting with Ed Meese and he said, 'If we don't get a hook, he'll stay with you guys all afternoon.'"

The guys President Reagan hated to leave were 32 members of the baseball Hall of Fame — the largest group of Cooperstown enshrinees ever gathered in one place for any occasion.

It was hard to tell who was more tickled with the luncheon, the players or the president. Reagan told stories from his five years as a Chicago Cub broadcaster and reminisced about big-league hijinks from long-ago spring training camps. DiMaggio, Willie Mays, Sandy Koufax, Stan Musial and Warren Spahn seemed like children at their first ball game.

The president was at his most relaxed and casual, certain of his footing, as soon as baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn began a series of ceremonial ball signings and gift presentations in the Oval Office. "I hear that Billy Herman is going to be here today," Reagan said to Kuhn. "You know

in all the years I did Cubs games, Herman never grounded into a double play."

While Hall of Fame officials were worrying about not flubbing their lines, the president almost seemed in a mood to put his feet up on his desk. "Tonight I'll look through these (Hall of Fame) cards you gave me and see if I can find Old Alex," said Reagan, who played Grover Cleveland Alexander in a movie biography of the pitcher.

"I guess there's no Charlie Root card here, is there?" asked the president, recalling the Cub pitcher who gave up Babe Ruth's famous "called shot" homer in the 1933 World Series. Reagan broadcast that Series by telegraphic recreation.

"I remember Root in spring training. He'd sit in the lobby with the newspaper open. Our utility

See REAGAN, A5, Col. 1



# Cooperstown Comes to the White House: An Afternoon of Anecdotes

REAGAN, From A1

infielder, a real prankster . . . oh, what was his name . . . English . . . uh . . . yeah, Woody English. He'd stand there talking with Root and all the time he'd have a match burning behind the paper. He could get that paper to explode into flames and Root would throw it up in the air and run out the door." All the while, Reagan did a pantomime of the old gag.

By the time Reagan spoke after lunch, he had warmed to a fine actor's simmer after practicing his material on the gents to his left and right, Duke Snider and Mays.

"I've always been proud I played Old Alex," Reagan told the munching immortals. "Bob Lemon, who's here, can tell you about that. He was my double. Sometimes I had to pitch for myself in close-ups. I can't really claim I was a baseball player. I went more the football route. So, they wanted me to pitch past the camera set up between the mound and home plate. Well, Al Lyons (then a Yankee) was catching me. My control wasn't all that good. One pitch I fired on the wrong side of the camera.

"Well, Lyons reached out and speared it with the hand that had no glove. He came out to the mound real slow, handed me the ball and said, 'Alex, I'm sorry I had to catch your blazer barehanded.'"

At that moment, Ronald Reagan became an unofficial major leaguer. Ballplayers don't laugh like that just to be polite, not even for presidents.

Reagan then recalled George (Catfish) Metkovich, a Red Sox with a bit part. "Metkovich memorized everybody's lines. Then, on the bus back from location, he'd imitate us and give everybody a hard time. One day, he finally got his speaking line. He was supposed to chew out an umpire. We told Metkovich just to yell anything he usually would at an ump.

"As the camera started rolling, you could tell something was wrong. His bat was shaking. I throw the pitch, the umpire bellows, 'Strike one.' George steps out, goes nose to nose with the ump and in this meek voice says, 'Gee sir, that was no strike.'"

When the howling stopped, Reagan added

in a sarcastic aside, "The picture wasn't a comedy, so we couldn't leave it in."

Reagan saved his kicker for last, as his supposed "one minute of remarks" reached 15 minutes. "I was always sorry that in the Alexander film the studio was unwilling to reveal the reason behind Old Alex's drinking problems. Alex was an epileptic. Sometimes, when there were reports that Alexander (who won 373 games) had been found 'drunk in the gutter again,' it had really been a seizure. But Alex would rather take that than have it known what was wrong with him.

"Alex once got beamed and had double vision. He wanted to make a comeback, so he practiced pitching with one eye closed. The first day back, he threw one pitch and broke three ribs. He was asked, 'What happened?'

"I closed the wrong eye,' he said."

The shock for many players here was the number of anecdotes from their past that Reagan recalled. Waite Hoyt, 82-year-old former roommate of Ruth, hardly expected Reagan to interject, "I remember a game in Brooklyn that Hoyt pitched. Dodger fans always said 'Earl' for 'oil' and 'oil' for 'Earl.'"

Well, this day, Hoyt slid into second and didn't get up. This Dodger fan behind me gets up and yells, 'Good Lord, Hoyt's hoyt (hurt).'

If Reagan was in top spirits, then the players, accustomed to presenting a blase face to the world, were filled with innocent fun as they gathered in the East Room for a group photo after shaking the President's hand and chatting in a receiving line. The 32 looked like rascals from a light beer commercial as Musial and Spahn rubbed their hands through Mays' hair just before the camera clicked, forcing him to yell, "Time out . . . time out," as he grabbed for his comb to repair the damage to what remains of his hair.

The only umpire, Jocko Conlin, assumed the front-and-center position. "Look at Jocko," muttered Kuhn, "he thinks he's umping this group."

Bob Lemon said, "This luncheon was as good as managing in the Series or pitching the All-Star game. Here I thought I was through having good days."

Musial, who flew to Anchorage last month to meet with the pope, told the president,

"You're an inspiration to us who are in our 30s. I was thinking maybe it was time to start slowing down until you were elected . . . Mr. (George) Bush talked about his days as a first baseman at Yale (where he was captain)," added Stan the Man, who sat next to the vice president. "However, I noticed that he didn't say much about his hitting."

The most surprise was occasioned, however, by the legendarily aloof DiMaggio. "Nobody's ever seen him like this," marveled Kuhn. "He's used up 10 years of words in the last hour. He's talking to everybody. There really must be a White House magic."

The last man out of the East Room, waiting until it was totally empty and guards were approaching to remove lingerers, was DiMaggio.

DiMaggio was told that Johnny Mize, who was just elected to the Hall, had said, "I've given autographs all my life, but today I finally asked for one."

Instead of smiling, DiMaggio seemed a bit perturbed.

"I blew it," said the Yankee Clipper.







-020625

4000  
GFD02  
RR  
PP010-02

April 14, 1981

Dear Friends:

I was happy to receive your beautiful floral gift. Knowing of your friendship encourages me daily.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN A.

Members of <sup>x</sup>Lake Shore Center  
Evergreen, Colorado 80439

RR/AVH/MP/ms--s  
PG-6A

Gift - Flowers - Get Well  
810415

8



Date 4-8-81

GIFT UNIT

Letter # PM-6A

Fill-in: DEAR friends:

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

Initial: AA

Flowers Design by  
David Elsworth.

Cypripedium Orchid, roses, etc  
large arrangement in basket



We are sorry. Our  
prayers are with you.  
Lake Shore Center  
Evergreen, Colorado  
80439

Flowers, Designs by  
David Elsworth



020626

IP

4000  
A1007  
PPD10-02

April 14, 1981

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Rentas:

I was happy to receive your beautiful floral gift. Knowing of your friendship encourages me daily.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN A

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rentas  
1250 West Washington Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

RR/AVH/MP/ms--s  
PG-6A

8

Gift - Flowers - Get Well  
810415

Date

4-8-81

GIFT UNIT

Letter #

PM-6A

Fill-in:

Special Instructions:

Initial:

AA



Palace  
Florists, Inc.

Mums, Carnations, Iris, daisies  
& roses

Palace  
Florists, Inc.

We are all with  
you.

Bill + Dee Rentas  
1250 W. Wash. ST  
Chic. Ill 60603



020627

TR

4000  
GT002  
PP010-02

April 14, 1981

Dear Miss Roinuse:

I was happy to receive your beautiful floral gift. Knowing of your friendship encourages me daily.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN A

Miss Mary Roinuse  
233 North Drew  
Mesa, Arizona 85201

RR/AVH/MP/ms--s  
PG-6A

Gift - flowers - get well

810415



Date: 4-8-81

GIFT UNIT

Letter # PM-6A

Fill-in: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Initial: AA

President Reagan  
The White House

Yellow Roses  
White Carnations

C & W FLOWER MART INC.  
1824 MARTIN L. KING, JR. AVE.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20020  
878-1785



A Speedy Recovery

We love you  
always.

Mary Rowland

233 North  
Drew  
Mesa, Arizona 85201

C & W FLOWER MART INC.  
1824 MARTIN L. KING, JR. AVE.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20020  
878-1785



020628

*Jhu*

*TR*

*4000  
GI002  
PP010-02*

April 14, 1981

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs:

I was happy to receive your beautiful floral gift. Knowing of your friendship encourages me daily.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN *A*

Mr. and Mrs. Steven <sup>X</sup>Jacobs  
111 Forest Lane  
Atherton, California 94025

RR/AVH/MP/ms--s  
PG-6A

*Gift flowers - get well*

*810415*

Date 4-8-81

GIFT UNIT

Letter # PH-6A

Fill-in: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Initial: AA



A speedy get well  
from Steven and Julie  
Jacobs. 111 Forest  
Lane. Atherton  
California

020637

4008

TR

GT002

SP281-05

PR003

April 14, 1981

Dear Mrs. Kreiger:

I was pleased to receive your recent message and photographs.

Your expression of support and friendship as we embark on our road to a national renewal confirms my faith in the ability of our people to work together, meet our problems head on, and accomplish our common goals.

With heartfelt thanks and best wishes,

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN A

Mrs. Dean Kreiger  
R.R. 7, Box 268  
Huntington, Indiana 46750

RR/RCH/AVH/SRH/SEV/las --

P-16

~~Gifts - photographs from Tampico, Illinois~~  
810415



P-16

RE: Support/Friendship

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 27, 1981

April 9, 1981

Dear ~~Mr.~~ Mrs. Kreiger:

I was pleased to receive your recent message ~~and want you to know how much I appreciate hearing from you.~~ *and photographs.*

Your expression of support and friendship as we embark on our road to a national renewal confirms my faith in the ability of our people to work together, meet our problems head on, and accomplish our common goals.

With heartfelt thanks and best wishes,

Sincerely,

/s/  
///  
///

Cut 2/26/81 - ckb  
Proofed nm

RR/RCH/AVH/KCS  
P-16

*gmH*

*OK gmH*

(2/24/81)

*4/9/81  
Note: pictures held by AVH*

Huntington, Indiana  
February 19, 1980

2  
JMK  
President Ronald Regan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Regan:

In 1967, I sent you some pictures of scen in Tampico, Ill., thinking, perhaps, as a physician, practising there around that time of your birth, that my father may have delivered you. On further correspondence with the Mayor of Tampico, he said that the records show that a Dr. Terry delivered you--before my father came to Tampico. I do remember that he mentioned that he and a Dr. Terry helped each other out at different times. I have reason to believe that the enclosed picture is Dr. Terry, so am sending it on along with some other pictures I found of Tampico that may be of some interest to you.

I listened to your speech last nite, and want to tell you that I think as captain of the ship, you have made a start to move it out of the Sargasso and head for open waters! Good luck!

I also have been reading through the media that you have been criticised already for your preference in jelly beans as a bad example for tooth decay etc. Well, for some folks there is the alternative of alfalfa sprout, but then you know about cows and alfalfa and so, that, too, could be dangerous! Personally, I like lemon drops.

Mr. Regan, I'll look at your name as an optical illusion and see: "WE-CAN". Let not future hisorians write of we Americans, before its too late, as being a part of ATLAS SHRUGGED!

They say, that things aren't even on the drawing boards of the greatness we can achieve!

God Bless you in your endeavors and keep in touch!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dean Kreiger

4/9 Pictures put into AWH collage