

Dear Andrea and Sidney,

12/16/76

We are sure your account of Kathy's wedding is neither the wishful thinking of a proud mother nor the exaggeration of the one who made it all possible. If she is anything the wonderful little girl I remember she deserved no less.

Hope she will always be as happy <sup>as</sup> ~~and~~ everyone was that day.

The news about Sidney is a shock. I think that as we grow older we tend to think of those we have known and loved for years in terms of as they were when we first knew them. Thus I have always thought of Sidney as quietly durable - ongoing forever.

I do hope he can adjust to a new life without undue impatience. It is possible, impossible as it may seem to the active. And I hope he can again become as active as I have, although I'd rather have him satisfied with less. Florida and the warm sun should be the best medicine for both of you. With our hopes to add just a little more warmth. And maybe a little envy to make it more precious.

With patience and a little more care than I exercised Sidney will get his strength back. First I went too far, was too careful, too self-indulgent from it. Then I went too far the other way, partly because the doctors prepraed me for nothing. Since then I have worked it out for myself. I do what I feel like doing. Now I can put in the hours you may recall - and do. What is boring that I should do I do. Like riding an exercycle when the weather makes walking not good. Once the body is ready the thing is to learn how much of what is enough and not too much.

Little is new with us. More of the same, more of everything. I am getting all the FBI records on the King assassination at the rate of about 500 pages a week. Remarkable stuff! And they are holding off on the most significant. I have a whole file cabinet of once-secret CIA stuff and they have hardly begun to disgorge. Several possible movies in what I've read and I've read only a small fraction. Getting and reading this stuff, doing what is necessary for the lawsuits that make it possible, have kept me from a new book on the King assassination since April and from any of the started books on JFK.

But what an archive it makes! If I can keep on paying for the xeroxes. I've given my lawyer enough to pay for the next 10,000 but this is less than half of what I'll get from the FBI alone. I get an honorarium, Bill runs it through our bank account and I give it to the lawyer. We make out without these.

I've begun to deposit my papers in an archive in the University of Wisconsin system. Not at Madison but for all of them. At one of the more conservative branches where there is a solid professional historian who can and does supervise and reduce the nut stuff. Gratifyingly the favorable reaction is entirely non-political, as it should be. After I spent a week there, with two seminars and a night speech of which all but four were by me, the most conservative preachers were making laudatory sermons. They taped and videotaped everything (communications school) and are making it available to all schools and public broadcasting. If nobody else comes across with funding that requires something else they will get everything. I have four more file cabinets on order and I have 20 full ones. If they can arrange funding that does not cut into the real financial problems all schools have today they will ~~share~~ share with others. This really is unprecedented material so I'm hoping they can find someone with the kind of ego I do not have, someone whose name can be on the archive, and that as a result I can be more efficient. If with the promises I have to keep I can walk the miles I want before I sleep I will be content. Their approach to me was ~~three~~ three or four years ago. My reluctance then was from the hope that there might be interest locally they could share, where it would give me a chance to work with students, particularly those who wanted to be lawyers and of these women (we need more women lawyers), but there has been no administration-level interest from the Washington-area colleges and the Peace Corps type who was the local womens' college prexy has gone on to a larger place.

May the coming year and those to follow all be like Kathy's wedding day to you!

Our best,