

Feb.27, 1996

Dear Harold:

It has been a frustrating 3 weeks, with my brother in the hospital. I have trouble concentrating, and I think I have set a record losing files and material on my desk.

It appears that Larry should make a slow and steady improvement. But it is slow and frustrating.

He has had a much better attitude than I have had!

We may try to get up there this spring. In late March we are going to Chicago for one of Betsy's cousins wedding. It is going to be one of those social events of the year deals, I have to wear a suit. I only have one that fits, which I bought for my ill fated appearance in the Court of Appeals. They ruled against us in an open records case. The Supremes refused to hear it. We are right. Interestingly, our case may be cited in another open records case. We have had a lot of misuse of the handicap parking sticker in Louisville, and one of the local TV stations has tried to get a list of those who have one. So far, they are not allowed to see them. Privacy. Which, of course, makes one wonder if they are in fact being misused. I have always been fascinated by open records law. One of the reasons I was attracted to your work.

Betsy's artist friend who she wrote her articles about is an artist in residence in Washington DC. We may try to get up there in April. Assuming I have not gone crazy by then!

Betsy's uncle was once head of the Democrats in Chicago. They were allied with the Mayor Daley faction. About 1959, JFK came to speak when he was a Senator. Betsy's aunt Pat got to talk with him for about 30 minutes, letting him know his views on foreign policy were misguided. Kennedy was very polite to her, and quite a charmer. One of the things that impressed me over the years is that everyone I have ever met who met JFK, Republican or Democrat, thought he was the most charming man they had ever met.

A local Republican named George Clark founded the Burger Queen franchise, which has since merged with Dairy Queen. When he was younger, in the Rotary Club or some such, he had the chance to meet JFK. Kennedy asked him what he did for a living. He told him, but said he really wanted to start a hamburger chain, but did not have the money. He said Kennedy told him "Well, that sounds like an excuse, not a reason!" Clark went on to borrow \$5,000 from his mother in law, and now is one of the wealthiest men in Kentucky. Great story.

One of the things that is interesting is the soon to be auction of

Jackie Kennedy's estate. A lot of interest, and some of the items are quite reasonable. Camelot still fascinates.

I'm having a lot of fun watching the Republican primaries. The only thing that bothers me is the rise of Buchanan. Are people really that stupid? I find it really amazing that Buchanan is against legal immigration. Wants a five year moratorium. Probably wants to exempt drunk, narrowminded Irish Catholics, like himself. Talk about the lowest common denominator type of appeal.

Humor writer Molly Ivins says she liked Buchanan's 1992 speech to the Republican convention, but it was much better in the original German.

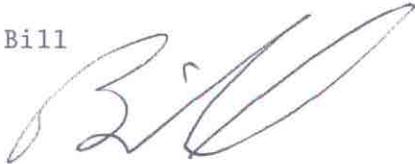
Clinton may be a wounded duck, but that's better than being a dead duck, like the Republican nominee, whoever that may be.

I kind of liked it when Buchanan compared abortion to Communism. I knew he would somehow get the Commies in there!

It looks like Castro is determined to prove that he can give any president a hard time. Liberals like me have always felt that tourism is the best anti Castro method possible. What could be better than about 10,000 American tourists telling the Cubans how great it is in Florida and Key West, when the Cubans are forced to live like 100 years ago? I think that Castro shot down the planes to squelch American tourism, which is probably his greatest threat. Seems like odd timing. Two of Bobby Kennedy's sons just visited Castro, as did Admiral Carroll, from CDI. At least they don't have nukes anymore.

I'll write soon. Say HI to Lil.

Bill

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "Bill" written in a cursive, stylized script.