

# Nixon Visits His Wife

## Long Beach

Former President Nixon, carrying a white gardenia and a packet of cards and letters, visited his ailing wife Pat yesterday at Long Beach Memorial Hospital.

He told reporters that Mrs. Nixon is "passing through the crisis" after suffering a stroke, but will need therapy to regain full use of her left arm and leg.

Mrs. Nixon was moved to a room across the hall from her original bed in the cardiac care unit. The room, also in the critical care area, has a view of the Pacific Ocean and is the same one occupied by Mr. Nixon when he was stricken with phlebitis 21 months ago.

John Lungren, the Nixon family physician, confirmed that Mrs. Nixon has passed the crisis stage.

"She's progressing very nicely, but she's still in serious condition," Lungren said.

Mrs. Nixon remained in serious but stable condition since she was hospitalized Thursday.

"I think she'll especially like this," Mr. Nixon said, pointing to the single flower resting in the palm of his hand.

"This is a fresh gardenia from the plant that was just outside of her

bedroom that we picked this morning. This is my flower this morning."

Mr. Nixon, arriving just before 11 a.m. with his daughters, Tricia Cox and Julie Eisenhower, chatted with reporters for several minutes and then greeted a small boy inside the lobby, who gave Mr. Nixon a dime.

"Mr. Nixon, here's a dime to buy stamps," said Robert Blair, 10, of Garden Grove.

Mr. Nixon, accepting the dime, smiled at the brown-haired boy and chuckled, "Go down to the beach and get some sun."

"He's a nice man," Robert said.

Mr. Nixon also carried a packet of letters and cards sent to Mrs. Nixon "not only from famous people like emperors and kings and secretaries of states, but also I have messages from people she has never met.

"It's quite touching that people all over this country and in other countries are thinking of her at this time," the former president said.

Mr. Nixon said he is hopeful his wife will be removed from the serious list when the next scheduled medical report is released today.

*United Press*