

26 June 1974

New York, NY. 10023

Dear Bud,

There are shamefully belated thanks to you from an admiring citizen and taxpayer for your splendid and exceptional service to our nation as CNO, Bud, and very best wishes for your success and happiness in what new role you may undertake in the years ahead. The likes of you are rare and your contributions significant.

Ronnie and I planned to attend your portrait unveiling a presentation, Tom Sped that night, June 28<sup>th</sup>, with the Curtmans.

But Thursday, the 27<sup>th</sup> I experienced stomach cramps that put me in New York Hospital where I remained until a few days ago. 25 days on the Bonnie! hint!

It's great to be home and I've soon been sea legs under me again. But I did want you to know Ronnie and I deeply regretted having to cancel. She joins me in most hearty and sincere good wishes to you and Ronnie and your children. We'd love to see any of you should you find time whenever here in Manhattan and hope it will be soon and often!

Cordially,

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. USA (Ret) *EL*  
ex CNO  
Naval Department  
Washington DC -