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Dr. Ben Eiseman
C/O B. Mark Evers, M.D.
Society of University Surgeons Foundation
341 Maitland Avenue, Suite 130
Maitland, FL 32751

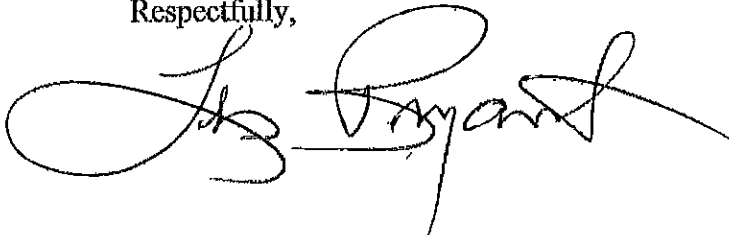
Dear Ben:

Warmest congrats for this very rare honor of being selected to receive the SUS 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of your remarkable contributions to Surgical Care for the people of this world!! Hardly a week goes by that I don't thank GOD for your willingness to take a chance by hiring a young surgeon just finishing his residency in Cincinnati and giving him the opportunity to join the new Department at Lexington in 1962. You gave me the greatest challenge of my career by allowing me to walk shoulder to shoulder with you, Frank Spencer, Ben Rush, Rene' Menguy, and an incredible group of private surgeons in Lexington who joined you in developing that outstanding Department!

In those early years you gave me responsibilities that I would have had to wait for years at other academic centers. When I was your co-attending on the Blue Service at the UK Medical Center, I was often terrified because you often operated and then left town. How would I care for your patients if something went amiss??? Happily, the patients did well.

Ben, I will never be able to thank you enough for the encouragement that you gave me and so many others to follow Robert Browning's admonition, "Always let your reach exceed your grasp"! My career has given me great satisfaction and a wonderful life! Much of the credit goes to you for your enormous influence on my early years. May GOD bless you and keep you until we meet again.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester R. Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with large loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.