

**The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “12/4/74 - "No Greater Love" Christmas Party” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 29, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: PATTI MATSON  
FROM: SUSAN PORTER  
SUBJECT: Action Memo

Mrs. Ford has accepted the following out-of-house invitation:

EVENT: Drop-by Children's Christmas Party  
GROUP: Redskins and No Greater Love  
DATE: Wednesday, December 4, 1974  
TIME: 5-5:30 (Party, however, is 4:30-6:00)  
PLACE: Dulles Airport Holiday Inn  
CONTACT: Carmella LaSpada, 785-4665

This is the annual Christmas party jointly sponsored by No Greater Love and the Washington Redskins for children of men missing or killed in action. Mrs. Ford has agreed to drop-by from 5 to 5:30 that evening. She has also agreed to lend her name as Honorary Patron to No Greater Love. Susan Ford was also invited, but will be unable to attend. Thank you.

cc: BF Staff  
Warren Rustand  
Staircase  
Rex Scouten  
Ric Sardo



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dear Mrs. Ford,

<sup>(+Susan)</sup>  
You have been invited to  
drop by the No Greater Love X-mas  
Party to be given on Wed., Dec. 4,  
4:30-6:00 at the Dulles Holiday  
Inn. I believe Ric Sardo has  
spoken to you about this.

~~X~~ Drop-by No Greater  
Love/Redskin Party  
Time: 5-5:30 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_ Regret

Thank you,

susan

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dear Susan,

You and your mother are invited to drop-by the No Greater Love/Redskins Christmas Party to be given on Wednesday, December 4th, 4:30-6:00 pm at the Dulles Holiday Inn. I sent the original to your mother.

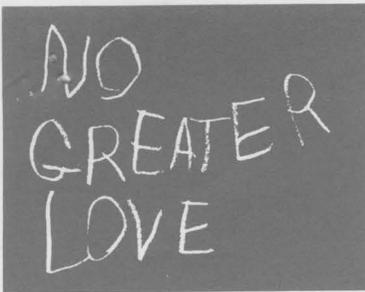
\_\_\_\_\_ Drop-by No Greater Love/  
Redskin Party  
Time:

Regret *have to*  
*babysit.*

Thank you,

*susan*





**National  
Advisory Council \***

- George Allen  
Head Coach, Washington Redskins
- Arthur Ashe
- Johnny Bench
- Congressman Jack Brinkley
- Larry Brown
- Edward J. Carlough
- Wilt Chamberlain
- Colonel Fred Cherry, USAF
- Bill Cosby
- Bill Curry
- Congressman Dan Daniel
- Rear Admiral Jeremiah Denton, USN
- Congressman William Dickinson
- Joe Di Maggio
- Marie Donohue
- Major General John Flynn, USAF
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- Bill Gallo  
President, National Cartoonists Society
- Richard C. Gerstenberg  
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- Althea Gibson
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- Senator Barry Goldwater
- Senator Robert Griffin
- Alphons Hackl
- Congressman F. Edward Hebert
- Conrad Hilton
- Senator Daniel Inouye
- Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson
- John B. Kelly, Jr.
- Billy Kidd
- Bill Kilmer
- Mrs. Vince Lombardi
- Jack Lord
- Jerry Lucas
- John Lyons
- Commander John McCain, USN
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- Jim McKay  
TV Sportscaster
- Congressman G. V. Montgomery
- Keith Morris
- Joe Namath
- Congressman Thomas O'Neill
- Bobby Orr
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- Joe Paterno
- Richard Petty
- Frank Raftery
- Orlo Robertson
- Brooks Robinson
- Senator Hugh Scott
- William Shoemaker
- O.J. Simpson
- Senator Strom Thurmond
- Lt. Colonel Terry Uyeyama, USAF
- Jerry West
- Ted Williams
- Congressman Bob Wilson
- \* Partial Listing

Inspired by the saying, *Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends*, the people at No Greater Love sponsor programs of friendship and care for children of servicemen missing or killed in action, hospitalized veterans, GIs overseas and senior citizens without families.

**HANK AARON**  
President

November 15, 1974

Mrs. Gerald P. Ford and  
Miss Susan Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mrs. Ford and Susan:

For the past three years, No Greater Love has sponsored a Christmas Party with the Redskins for the children of our men who were missing and killed in action.

On behalf of the Redskins and No Greater Love, of whose National Advisory Council I'm a member, I'd like to extend an invitation to both of you to attend this year's party. The fun will start at about 4:30 and last untill about 6:00 pm on Wednesday, December 4 at the Dulles Holiday Inn.

We plan to have approximately 60 children at this year's party. They would, I'm sure, be thrilled if you could join us.

Mrs. Ford, speaking on behalf of NGL's National Advisory Council, I'd like you to know how delighted we are that you've so kindly accepted our invitation to lend your name as Patron to No Greater Love. Your interest and concern is deeply appreciated.

Thank you and I hope your schedules will permit you to drop by on the 4th.

Sincerely,

Larry Brown  
Member,  
National Advisory Council



LB:vg1



1750 New York Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20006  
(202) 785-4665

**CARMELLA LaSPADA**  
Chairman of the Board

**ROGER STAUBACH**  
Vice President

**REV. LOUIS SAVARY, S.J.**  
Executive Vice President

**STEPHEN PALEY, ESQ.**  
Secretary



Tuesday, Dec. 3  
5 p.m.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

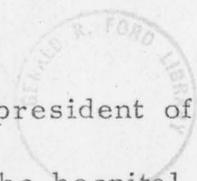
MRS. FORD

SCHEDULE: CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY SPONSORED BY  
WASHINGTON REDSKINS AND NO GREATER LOVE

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1974 at Dulles Airport Holiday Inn

Dress: Everything from pants suits to casual long skirts to street dress  
Advanceperson: patti matson

- 4:10 p.m. DEPART South Lawn of White House in motorcade  
enroute Dulles Airport Holiday Inn.
- 5 p.m. ARRIVE Holiday Inn, where you will be met by:
- Carmella LaSpada, founder and chairman of the board  
for No Greater Love (NGL)
  - Larry Brown, running back for the Redskins and member  
of National Advisory Council for NGL
- 5-5:20 p.m. Mingle informally with MIA-KIA children and their  
families (about 100 people).
- 5:20 p.m. The children will go to a corner of the room and sit on  
the floor to sing a Christmas carol. Santa Claus (Redskin  
Ron McDole) will arrive and ask you to come forward.  
He will:
- thank you for coming
  - read a letter from Hank Aaron, who is president of  
NGL, which also thanks you.
  - give you the game ball you received in the hospital,  
which will be signed individually by team members.
  - introduce you to 4-year-old Bryan Earnest, the youngest of  
the children, who will present you with a bouquet.
  - thank you again and walk you to the door.
- note: this is very informal - no mike, much ad lib. No  
remarks are required, though you might want to thank briefly.
- 5:30 p.m. DEPART via motorcade enroute South Lawn of White House.
- 6:20 approx ARRIVE South Lawn of White House.



BACKGROUND on Redskins-No Greater Love party for children of MIA-KIAs -- Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1974 -- Dulles Airport Holiday Inn

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This is the third annual party for these children that the Redskins and No Greater Love have sponsored.

About 60 children have been invited. They are all children of MIAs or KIAs (killed in action) -- most are now KIAs. Their brothers and sisters and mothers will also be attending. They are from the Washington, D.C. area and from the Virginia Beach area.

The Redskins Park is located near the Holiday Inn, and members of the team will be coming after practice. Many have worked with the kids before, as one of the No Greater Love (NGL) programs involves pairing the children and athletes in a Big Brother sort-of-fashion.

\*\* No Greater Love stresses strongly that this is a non-profit, totally non-political organization involved strictly in seeing that these children are remembered. It is not involved with the League of Families or VIVA. It is not involved in any type of action to pressure Administration officials in accounting for those still unaccounted for. It's total purpose is "to sponsor programs of friendship and care for children of servicemen missing or killed-in-action."

It is a nationwide program, though parties like this one do not take place everywhere simply because they don't have the funds to staff or organize. It is funded through public donations, though NFL has given a grant for a lot of the cost, and four unions donate office space. They have only one paid employee, a secretary.

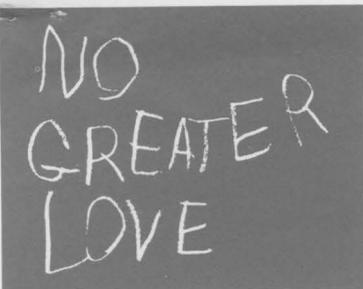
Names you might want to be aware of who will be at the party:

- Bill Anders, former astronaut
- AF Col. Fred Cherry, former POW
- Cartoonist Brant Parker, creator of Wizard of Id
- Cartoonist Bill Rechin, creator of Pluribus
- Redskins Larry Brown, Ron McDole, Billy Kilmer, Roy Jefferson, Diron Talbert, Bill Brundige, among others
- Carmella LaSpada, chmn of board of NGL and founder

NGL provides the children (more than 3,000) with remembrances on their birthdays and special holidays from their favorite sports stars and movie stars, as well as with special events, like this Christmas party.

*Jatti*  
pm





DRAFT

Inspired by the saying, *Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends*, the people at No Greater Love sponsor programs of friendship and care for children of servicemen missing or killed in action, hospitalized veterans, GIs overseas and senior citizens without families.

**National  
Advisory Council \***

- George Allen  
Head Coach, Washington Redskins
- Arthur Ashe
- Johnny Bench
- Congressman Jack Brinkley
- Larry Brown
- Edward J. Carlough
- Wilt Chamberlain
- Colonel Fred Cherry, USAF
- Bill Cosby
- Bill Curry
- Congressman Dan Daniel
- Rear Admiral Jeremiah Denton, USN
- Congressman William Dickinson
- Joe Di Maggio
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- Major General John Flynn, USAF
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- O.J. Simpson
- Senator Strom Thurmond
- Lt. Colonel Terry Uyeyama, USAF
- Jerry West
- Ted Williams
- Congressman Bob Wilson

\* Partial Listing

**HANK AARON**  
President

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Washington Redskins will take a few hours off from their quest of the Super Bowl December 4 to attend a Christmas party for some 70 children of servicemen missing and killed in action in Indochina. The party is sponsored by No Greater Love.

Larry Brown, Diron Talbert, Billy Kilmer, Roy Jefferson, Bill Brundige and Ron McDole will be among the team members attending the 4:30 event at the Dulles International Airport Holiday Inn.

Cartoonists Brant Parker (Wizard of Id) and Bill Rechin (Pluribus) will make sketches for the young guests while local radio personalities Mike Collins and Harv Moore and Dick Danley of Jordan Kitts Music Company will provide entertainment and lead carol singing. Santa Claus (Ron McDole) will distribute gifts.

Mrs. Gerald Ford and her daughter Susan have been invited while former Astronaut Bill Anders and Air Force Colonel Fred Cherry, a former POW, will also attend.

In addition to guests from the Washington area, more than 40 children of MIAs-KIAs from the Tidewater Virginia area will be there. This was made possible through the donation of buses from Greyhound and Trailways.

No Greater Love is a program of friendship and care for hospitalized veterans and children of MIAs-KIAs.

Conceived by a group of prominent athletes in 1971, No Greater Love has provided special remembrances to more than 3000 youngsters on birthday and holidays from their favorite sports stars, entertainers and teams, as well as special events such as the Redskins' Christmas Party. Originator and national coordinator of the program is Ms. Carmella LaSpada.



1750 New York Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20006  
(202) 785-4665

**CARMELLA LaSPADA**  
Chairman of the Board

**ROGER STAUBACH**  
Vice President

**REV. LOUIS SAVARY, S.J.**  
Executive Vice President

**STEPHEN PALEY, ESQ.**  
Secretary





**National  
Advisory Council \***

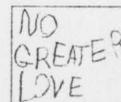
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- Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson
- John B. Kelly, Jr.
- Billy Kidd
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**HANK AARON**  
President

No Greater Love is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization and relies solely on donations from the American public for its support. NGL recently received its first grant from the National Football League Charities.

Its headquarters in Washington was donated by four AFL-CIO unions--Iron Workers, Painters, Fire Fighters and Sheet Metal Workers.



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Secretary

# NO GREATER LOVE

## National Advisory Council\*

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Head Coach, Washington Redskins

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Johnny Bench  
Congressman Jack Brinkley  
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Congressman Bob Wilson

\* Partial Listing

**CARMELLA LaSPADA**  
Chairman of the Board

**HANK AARON**  
President

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### MRS GERALD FORD TO JOIN REDSKINS IN SPARKING THIRD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR CHILDREN OF MIAs/KIAs

Washington, D.C. -- Mrs. Gerald Ford will be the honored guest at the 3rd annual Christmas party for some 70 children of MIAs/KIAs sponsored by No Greater Love and the Washington Redskins.

The Washington Redskins will take a few hours off from their quest of the Super Bowl December 4 to attend the party. Larry Brown, Diron Talbert, Billy Kilmer, Roy Jefferson, Bill Brundige and Ron McDole will be among the team members attending the 4:30 event at the Dulles International Airport Holiday Inn.

Cartoonists Brant Parker (Wizard of Id) and Bill Rechin (Pluribus) will make sketches for the young guests while local radio personality Harv Moore and Dick Danley of Jordan Kitts Music Company will provide entertainment and lead carol singing. Santa Claus (Ron McDole) will distribute gifts.

Former Astronaut Bill Anders and Air Force Colonel Fred Cherry, a former POW, will also attend.

In addition to guests from the Washington area, more than 40 children of MIAs/KIAs from the Tidewater Virginia area will be there. This was made possible through donations from Greyhound, Trailways and the Amalgamated Transit Union.



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Its headquarters in Washington was donated by four AFL-CIO unions--Iron Workers, Painters, Fire Fighters and Sheet Metal Workers.

###

For immediate release  
Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1974

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

---

Mrs. Ford will attend a children's Christmas Party sponsored by the Washington Redskins and No Greater Love Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 5 p.m. The party is for children of servicemen missing or killed in action and will be held at the Dulles Airport Holiday Inn.

About 60 children, ages 4 - 16, will attend. They are children of MIA-KIAs from the Washington, D.C. area and from the Tidewater Virginia area. This is the third annual Christmas party for the children that has been sponsored by No Greater Love and the Redskins.

No Greater Love is an organization which sponsors programs for children of servicemen missing or killed in action, hospitalized veterans, GIs overseas and senior citizens without families.

Among those attending the party will be Redskins Larry Brown, Diron Talbert, Billy Kilmer, Roy Jefferson, Bill Brundige and Ron McDole, who will act as Santa Claus. Former Astronaut Bill Anders and Col. Fred Cherry, a former POW, will also attend.

Cartoonists Brant Parker (Wizard of Id) and Bill Rechin (Pluribus) will make sketches for the children.

Four-year-old Bryan Earnest, the youngest of the children, will present Mrs. Ford with a bouquet. He is the son of Mrs. Charles M. Earnest of Virginia Beach.

# # # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

The mink-covered football that Mrs. Ford gave to some Redskins at the "No Greater Love" Christmas party on December 4, 1974 was sent to her by

Colonel Ben E. Nye  
Wholesale Furs  
5 South Wabash Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

and received on October 9th. A card response was sent to Colonel Nye by the President.

(NOTE: Acknowledgement of gifts received for the First Family - letters are sent to private individuals and cards for commercial firms)

GAME BALL  
awarded to  
MRS. BETTY FORD  
from Coach George Allen  
and Washington Redskins

Washington 30-Denver 3  
September 30th, 1974  
Monday Night Football

- Watergate Coverup Trial heard tape on which former President Nixon offered to make \$200,000 to \$300,000 in cash available to H. R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman for legal and family expenses when they were leaving the White House.
- The Democrats at their first national non-presidential convention opening Thursday in Kansas City give top priority to developing a program to handle the nation's economic problems.
- Vice President-designate Nelson Rockefeller makes his last appearance before House judiciary committee Thursday. His brother Laurence testified Wednesday he loaned \$35,000 to former Rep. William Miller (R. N.Y.), the candidate for Vice President in 1961, at Nelson's request. Most of it was repaid.
- The Senate approved 46-45 a \$2.67B foreign aid bill which would cut off aid to Turkey in mid-February and sent it to the House.
- The House (by voice vote) agreed President Ford should spend \$540.6 million of the \$657.6 million he sought to cut from the Federal budget. The challenge to his impoundment powers now goes to the Senate.

FROM THE WIRES

- News Summary,  
Dec. 4, 74

Mrs. Ford Passes Fur-covered Football

Washington (UPI) -- The occasion was Christmas but the theme was football, and First Lady Mrs. Betty Ford scored off the Washington Redskins.

The Redskins, sponsors of the party for 60 children of Washington area servicemen killed or missing in Vietnam, presented Mrs. Ford, the guest of honor, with a football signed by all the members of the team.

Mrs. Ford accepted the ball from defensive end Ron McDole -- at six-foot-four and 265 pounds probably the season's most massive Santa Claus -- and then in a neat hand off, slipped him a fur-covered football.



UPI

Betty Ford with Santa Claus Ron McDole of the Washington Redskins

Guest of honor at a Christmas party for war orphans at a Holiday Inn outside Washington, a radiant **Betty Ford** looked behind Santa Claus's whiskers and found someone who is usually breaking up a

night to 5 a.m. and then puts in a full day, including four hours of exercise to keep her dancer's legs limber. Shirley is sure the novel will be worth all the grind. "It's going to be the sexiest, fun-

season your food more strongly, don't take hotter baths, don't increase anything. I never wore make-up, never wore a girdle—why start now?" Another thing she has not increased is her fondness for actor **Rex Harrison**—her former husband and leading man—after reading his autobiography. "He said I didn't have a sense of humor," sniffed Lilli. "Remember that we spent fifteen years together. He must have been long-suffering."

In a disembodied news conference in 1972, **Howard Hughes** spoke by telephone from the Bahamas to seven selected reporters in Los Angeles. The reclusive billionaire's main purpose was to denounce **Clifford Irving's** Hughes "autobiography" as a fake, but Hughes also took a passing shot at former aide **Robert A. Maheu**, whom he had fired in 1970, said Hughes, because "he's a no-good, dishonest son of a bitch and he stole me blind." So far, that remark is going to cost Hughes \$2,823,333.30—the amount that a Federal jury in Los Angeles awarded Maheu last week in his defamation suit. Hughes's Summa Corp. plans to appeal and so does Maheu, who wants \$11 million more in punitive damages that were ruled out by the judge.

# NO GREATER LOVE

## National Advisory Council \*

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Head Coach, Washington Redskins

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**HANK AARON**  
President

March 18, 1975

Dear Mrs. Ford:

Thank you so much for the personally autographed photo which was taken at No Greater Love's Christmas party for the MIA/KIA children. I'm honored to have such a memento of an occasion which was so memorable for these youngsters -- and for myself.

It was such a pleasant surprise and I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

*Carmella*

Carmella LaSpada  
National Coordinator

P.S. I thought that you might be interested in seeing the enclosed article which appeared in the Amalgamated Transit Union's newsletter.

CL:vgl

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.



1750 New York Ave., N.W.  
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(202) 785-4665

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Executive Vice President

**STEPHEN PALEY, ESQ.**  
Secretary

# Baugh

Dec. 5, 1974  
Washington  
Post

Santa Claus, shown in  
another line of work at  
right, and First Lady  
Betty Ford do honors at  
third annual Christmas



Charley Taylor 12023 Canter Lane  
Reston Va 22090

Ron McDale 3525 Hardt Road  
Eden, NY 17057

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51 West 52nd Street  
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LIST OF MIA-KIA FAMILIES FROM VIRGINIA BEACH

Mrs. Jenny Barnes, wife of CDR Harry G., USN , KIA  
Joe-12, Elaine-16

Mrs. Martha Weaver, wife of John Herbert, USN , KIA  
Debbie-15, John-8

Mrs. Jo Ann Simonic, wife of LCDR Robert J., USN , KIA  
Brenda-17, Mike-16, Louie-15, Diane-13

Mrs. Rosemary Smith, wife of LCDR Walton W., USN , KIA  
Susie-15, Sandy-13

Mrs. Mary Holian, wife of LCDR J.E., USN , KIA  
Tom-14, Beth-13, Peter-11, Kathy & Kris-5

Mrs. Mary Curry  
Kathy-15, Joe-14, Kelly-10, Anita-16, Maryanne-17

Mrs. Marge Clark  
Jerry-12, David-11, Jennifer-7  
Mrs. Clark's mother Mrs. Barbara Storey

Mrs. Mary Fyles, wife of CDR R.A., USN , KIA  
Ginny-15

Mrs. Lila Florance, wife of John E., USN , KIA  
Peter-17, Maryanne-16, Trish-13

Mrs. Rita Weimorts, wife of Robert J., USN , KIA  
Robbie-14, David-13, Rita Ann-11

Mrs. Mary Hudome, wife of Lt. Harry J., USN , KIA  
Ria-18, Rob-16

Mrs. Margaret Tapp(not attending), wife of John B., USN , KIA  
Cindy-17, Jeff-14

Mrs. Barbara Ford, wife of LT. CDR Daniel, USN , KIA  
David-12, D.R.-13, Barbe-16

Mrs. Betty Brooks, wife of Darrell H., USN , KIA  
Mike-16, Kevin-8, Richard-13

Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson(not attending)  
Lisa-7

Mrs. Eileen Schurich, wife of CDR. Thomas E., USN , MIA  
Ellen-15, Tom-14, Marianne-13, Margie-11

MIA/KIA FAMILIES FROM THE WASHINGTON AREA WHO WILL ATTEND PARTY

Lt. Col. Richard Schott, USA (MIA declared KIA)  
Christopher-7, Cindy-15

Commander Kenneth Cameron, USN (one of 23 POW's who died in a POW  
camp in Hanoi)  
Karen-14, Kenneth-11, Sandy-15,

Lt. Col. Wilbur Grubb, USAF (one of 23 POW's who died in a POW  
camp in Hanoi)  
Van-11, Jeff-18, Rake-13, Roy-8

A.P. Gray, Jr., USA, KIA  
Steven-15

Commander Charles M. Earnest, USN, KIA  
Charles-10, Bryan-4

Lt. James Plowman, USN (MIA declared KIA)  
Jimmy-6

Major William Deane, USA, KIA  
Debby-17, Mike-15, Sharon-10

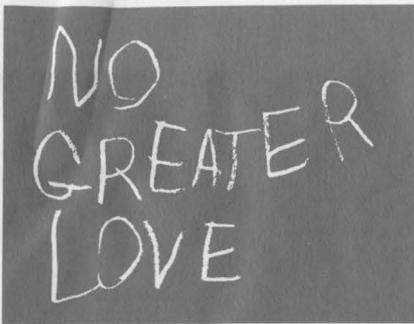
FACTS

24 families will attend the party  
59 children: ages 4-16

BREAKDOWN

age	no. of children
17	5
16	9
15	9
14	5
13	9
12	3
11	6
10	3
9	0
8	3
7	3
6	1
5	2
4	1

Four year old Bryan Earnest to present bouquet to Mrs. Ford



Inspired by the saying, *Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends*, the people at No Greater Love sponsor programs of friendship and care for hospitalized veterans and children of servicemen missing or killed in action.

# IN BRIEF



VOL. 1, NO. 1

1974

## Home Run King Hank Aaron New NGL President



Associated Press

Shortly before the 1974 baseball season got under way, Atlanta Braves' Hank Aaron, new world home run king, was named President of No Greater Love. Aaron was formally introduced in his new role at an Atlanta-Phillies game in Philadelphia.

On hand to greet the Braves' great outfielder were three children of servicemen missing in action since 1967. They are Debbie and Frank Parker, children of Captain Frank Parker, USAF; and Michael Kemmerer, son of Captain Donald Kemmerer, USAF. For the third straight year, the Phillies entertained NGL youngsters with dinner, dugout visits, photos, and other gifts at a game.

"If I am able to help the children of our men who did not return from Indochina, and our hospitalized veterans, I feel I will be doing something really worthwhile," said Aaron in accepting the presidency of No Greater Love.



J. M. Evans

Then Vice-President Gerald Ford greets Washington Redskins quarterback Bill Kilmer and ex-POWs Rear Admiral Bill Lawrence and Lieutenant Colonel John Dramesi, to discuss the *POW Returnees Salute to Hospitalized Veterans* sponsored by NGL. *POW returnees, together with such well-known Americans as Admiral Thomas Moorer, U.S. Senators Dan-*

*iel Inouye and Strom Thurmond, TV host Mike Douglas, Jack Lord of "Hawaii Five-O," Michael Learned of "The Waltons," Pat Boone, Miss America, Congressmen, governors, mayors, union leaders, and professional athletes took part in the Salute. General of the Army Omar Bradley served as Honorary National Chairman.*

## No Greater Love Finds Angel In NFL



For three years, No Greater Love, as an organization, lived a financial hand-to-mouth existence. We swallowed many broken promises of those who agreed to help. And we were tested in many ways to see if NGL had the true grit to carry on.

But in March 1974, our first breakthrough came from the National Football League when it awarded us our first grant. Commissioner Pete Rozelle, President of NFL Charities, announced it would financially aid NGL in its nationwide programs to remember children of our men missing and killed in action in Southeast Asia and hospitalized veterans. The NFL is the angel we were looking for these past three years, and thanks to its concern, our programs are off and running. We are hoping other sports groups, corporations, and foundations will follow NFL's example and support our cause.—NGL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Unions Donate New Office

Four AFL-CIO unions—Iron Workers, Painters, Fire Fighters and Sheet Metal Workers—gave NGL a big boost in November 1973, when they donated our new office at 1750 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20006. Presidents of these four unions—John Lyons, Frank Raftery, Howard McClennan and Edward J. Carlough—are members of NGL National Advisory Council.

## Annual Observance Planned

The Salute to Hospitalized Veterans proved so successful that NGL plans to make it an annual national observance. See Congressional Record on Page 4.



Washington Star Photographer Pete Schmick

## Townsend G. Martin Foundation Backs NGL

Shortly after the National Football League Charities announced its financial backing of No Greater Love, the Townsend B. Martin Foundation contributed a grant.

The foundation was established by Townsend B. Martin, part owner of the New York Jets football team, and one-time high-goal polo player.

Through a NGL special project, OPERATION HERO FLAG, we plan that on the birthday of each MIA, an American flag will be flown over the U.S. Capitol in his honor, then presented to his children. Here, Jimmy Plowman, 6, son of Lt. James Plowman, USN, MIA since 1967, receives the first such flag. (Photo Left)

## "For a Change" Pilot Program for Paralyzed Vets

At the Bronx VA Hospital on June 5, NGL initiated a new motivational program for paralyzed vets. Called "For a Change," it asks prominent athletes to reverse roles for an afternoon and sit in wheelchairs for sports competition with paralyzed vets. The idea for the program came from vet Peter Arballo, Wheelchair Olympics Gold Medalist, who wanted to do something for his fellow paraplegic veterans. "For a Change" is designed to foster physical activity and involvement among wheelchair vets.

On hand for the Bronx pilot program were three stars of the New York Jets—Steve Tannen, Eddie Bell, and Phil Wise.

Mrs. Helen Springborn, one of the owners of the Jets, visited with patients and presented Jets' autographed footballs to the winners of the wheelchair relay race.

After watching the Jets and veterans compete in wheelchair volleyball, football, and relay races, one patient said, "Maybe I'll try some of that volleyball business tomorrow. Looks like a lot of fun; better than just sittin' around." "That's what the program is all about," a NGL spokesman noted.

NGL plans to make "For a Change" a national program, holding similar sports events throughout the country at VA hospitals which serve spinal cord injury patients.



New York Jets

Angelo Nicosia, paralyzed veteran, shows three members of the New York Jets how to handle a football even though confined to a wheelchair. The lesson took place at the Bronx VA Hospital where No Greater Love launched its program for paralyzed veterans in June. The Jets are Phil Wise (left), Eddie Bell (to the left of Nicosia), and Steve Tannen.



Award-winning cartoonist Roy Doty completes a sketch for a patient in a VA Hospital. Members of the National Cartoonists Society regularly participate in NGL hospital visits and children's parties.



John Foster

General of the Army Omar Bradley signs an autograph for Todd Hanson, son of Captain Stephen P. Hanson, U.S. Marine Corps and another MIA child. Carmella LaSpada, NGL Board Chairman is at left. At right is Mrs. Donald Rosenfeld of Beverly Hills, California who gave the NGL party for MIA-KIA children at her home. Mrs. Omar Bradley, members of the LA Rams, former LA Dodger Wes Parker, Jack Haley, Sr. and a number of Walt Disney cartoonists attended.



Nate Fine

Mother's Day Breakfast Party, co-hosted by NGL and the Washington Redskins brought together Mrs. Vince Lombardi, widow of the Redskins and Green Bay Packers coach, and John Weaver, Jr., son of Navy Commander John Weaver, KIA in the Gulf of Tonkin. Fifty MIA-KIA children and their mothers attended the event in Virginia Beach.

## How We Started . . .

No Greater Love did not come into existence as an organization until 1971 but the idea behind it was already conceived and growing in 1966.

At that time, Carmella LaSpada, a Special Projects Aide in the White House, arranged an Armed Forces Day party for wounded veterans at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

It was such a great success that officials of Walter Reed Army Hospital asked her if she would do the same there. Carmella recalls she went through the amputee ward and asked the boys what they would most like to see. The reply was "pretty girls and athletes." Carmella obliged by getting attractive girl friends, secretaries from Capitol Hill and the White House, and members of the New York Yankees, including Mickey Mantle, to visit the hospital. The program, called V.I.P. (Very Important Patients) developed into weekly events. The athletes of America quickly grasped the opportunity to show their gratitude to the hospitalized veterans with the question, "What else can we do?"

In May 1971, Ms. LaSpada took leave from her government career and along with Johnny Unitas, Ted Williams, and other athletes, organized America's Sports Stars for POWs-MIAs in an effort to secure information about, and provide help for the men held in captivity. Letters from children of these men led to the creation in December 1971 of No Greater Love, a program of friendship and care for the children of POWs-MIAs.

The first year, No Greater Love sent more than 2,000 gifts, wrapped and shipped by Georgetown University student volunteers, to these children. This effort has continued, still with volunteer help.

With the return of our POWs in early 1973, families of those still missing in action asked No Greater Love to continue for the benefit of their children.

In addition, families of men killed in action heard about No Greater Love and asked that the program be expanded to include their children.

The main thrust is to help fill the void left by the absence of the fathers on special occasions such as birthdays and holidays. The program for the hospitalized vets also has continued.



Carmella LaSpada

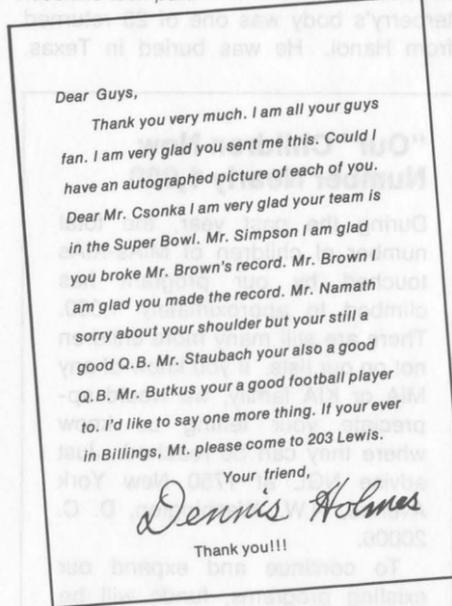
Ms. LaSpada has served voluntarily for the past three years as the NGL National Coordinator, and was elected Chairman of the Board in 1972.

—The Editors



Dave Tripp, U.S.A.F.

Two children who raised \$125 in pennies to aid the NGL program, meet Santa Claus (Washington Redskin Bill Brundige) at the annual Christmas Party given by the NFL club in cooperation with No Greater Love for the children of MIAs. They are Christopher and Heather Schott, children of Army Lieutenant Colonel Richard Schott, an MIA who was recently declared killed in action. Twenty-one Redskins took part.



Letter of thanks from an NGL youngster to stars Larry Csonka, O. J. Simpson, Larry Brown, Joe Namath, Roger Staubach, and Dick Butkus whose signatures appeared on NGL's 1973 Xmas card.

## To Remember the Children . . .

A former POW and Army Specialist-6, John Sparks of Memphis, Tennessee, who spent 5½ years as a POW, sent NGL a \$1,000 check "to remember the children of the men who didn't come home." Sparks' generous gift is NGL's largest personal contribution.

## National Advisory Council\*

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- Johnny Bench
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- Larry Brown
- Edward J. Carrough
- Wilt Chamberlain
- Colonel Fred Cherry, USAF
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- Joe Paterno
- Richard Petty
- Frank Raftery
- Orlo Robertson
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- Senator Hugh Scott
- William Shoemaker
- O.J. Simpson
- Senator Strom Thurmond
- Lt. Colonel Terry Uyeyama, USAF
- Jerry West
- Ted Williams
- Congressman Bob Wilson
- \* Partial Listing

Along with Hank Aaron, other NGL officers are: Vice President, Roger Staubach, Dallas Cowboys quarterback; Executive Vice President, Louis Savary, S.J., writer and book editor; Secretary, Stephen Paley, Washington, D. C. attorney.

Editor-in-Chief.....Orlo Robertson  
Associate Editors.....Louis Savary, S.J.  
Allen Scott  
John Scarfone

We would like to extend our thanks to Colortone Press, Hendricks-Miller Typographic Company and Frank Parsons Paper Company for their assistance in the production of this newsletter.—The Editors

## No Greater Love Sponsors Remembrance Ceremony



Gary Kieffer

On Memorial Day in Arlington National Cemetery, NGL sponsored a Remembrance Ceremony in honor of our men missing in action. The service was held in the Vietnam memorial section. Major General Verne L. Bowers, Adjutant General of the Army, was the guest speaker. Children of MIAs placed a No Greater Love bouquet at each memorial marker. Rose growers of America and Colorado Florist Association donated the flowers, and the special bouquet was designed by members of the Allied Florists Association of Greater Washington. Walter Cronkite's CBS News covered the event.



Steve Adams

The National No Greater Love bouquet composed of a red rose (or carnation), white baby's breath, and a blue cornflower was designed by florist Mark Turner of Washington, D. C., and will be used nationally for NGL Remembrance Ceremonies.

### Wife of Dead POW Remembers NGL

The widow of POW Lieutenant Colonel Ed Atterberry, who died in captivity, and whose two children have been involved in No Greater Love since the organization's inception, requested that in lieu of flowers at her husband's funeral, donations be sent to NGL. Colonel Atterberry's body was one of 23 returned from Hanoi. He was buried in Texas.



Vic Adams

Wilt Chamberlain, well-known player-coach of San Diego Conquistadors, invited 70 youngsters, the children of MIAs, to a game in Hampton, Va., with the Virginia Squires. Wilt was kept busy posing for photos with the children and signing autographs.

### "Our" Children Now Number Nearly 1,000

During the past year, the total number of children of MIAs-KIAs touched by our program has climbed to approximately 1,000. There are still many more children not on our lists. If you know of any MIA or KIA family, we would appreciate your letting us know where they can be reached. Just advise NGL at 1750 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

To continue and expand our existing programs, funds will be needed annually. If you know of people, groups, or organizations who might contribute to No Greater Love, please contact national headquarters. Tax deductible gifts may be sent to:

**NO GREATER LOVE**  
**1750 New York Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington, D. C. 20006**  
**Telephone: (202) 785-4665**



By Mr. HUGH SCOTT (for himself and Mr. MANSFIELD):

S.J. Res. 227. A joint resolution designating Monday, February 10, 1975, as a day of salute to America's hospitalized veterans. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. HUGH SCOTT. Mr. President, I am happy today to introduce with the distinguished majority leader (Mr. MANSFIELD), a resolution designating Monday, February 10, as a day of salute to America's hospitalized veterans.

Last year on February 12, the first anniversary of the release of the first group of POWs, an organization named No Greater Love, sponsored the first salute to hospitalized veterans. It was extremely successful, consisting of visits by prominent Americans to the VA hospitals and special activities for paralyzed veterans. As a member of the advisory council of No Greater Love, I have been asked to introduce a resolution proclaiming February 10, 1975 as a salute to these courageous men. The distinguished House majority leader, Mr. O'NEILL and the distinguished house minority leader, Mr. RHODES are introducing today a similar resolution in the House.

I hope this special day will further instill in all Americans a greater understanding and appreciation for what these hospitalized servicemen are going through and will further serve as a focal point for activities in our VA hospitals to honor these outstanding men.

They have given us so much; let us give them at least our time and our support.

S.J. RES. 227

Whereas 800,000 hospitalized American veterans are served in 177 VA hospitals annually, and

Whereas certain organizations sponsor throughout each year for these veterans a series of programs, celebrity visits, and special activities for paralyzed veterans, and formally call the nation's attention to these special Americans, and,

Whereas these servicemen and servicewomen deserve an annual recognition from the citizens through the United States for the sacrifices they made to help keep America a free country: Now, therefore be it

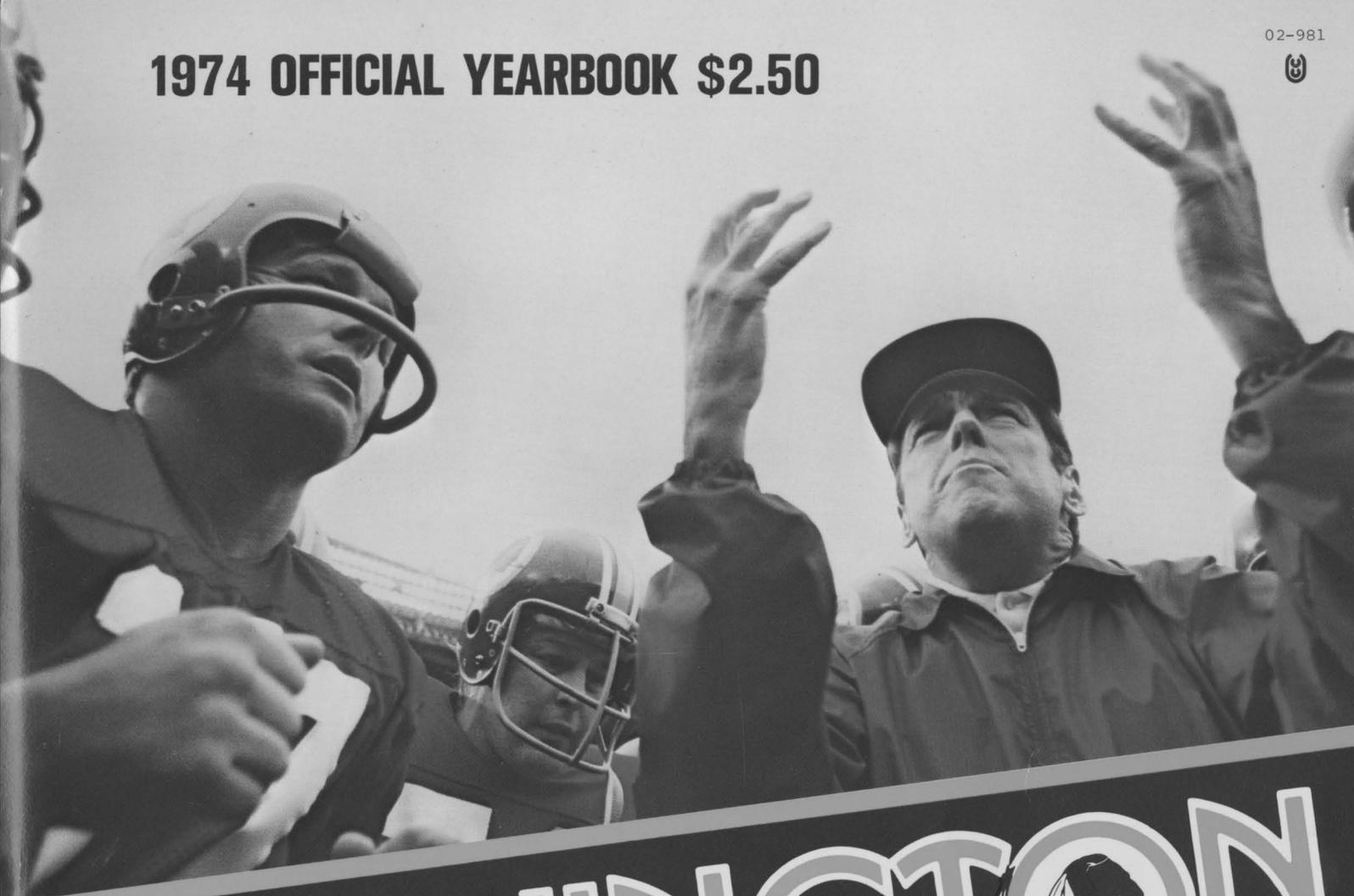
Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Monday, February 10, 1975, be designated as a day to honor America's hospitalized veterans for the sacrifices they have made to keep our nation free, that in all VA hospitals in the United States, this day be appropriately recognized as a salute to America's hospitalized veterans, and, furthermore, that the President of the United States, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Attorney General of the United States, and the governors of all the States be individually informed of this resolution.

NGL would like to thank Senators Hugh Scott and Mike Mansfield and Representatives Thomas O'Neill and John Rhodes for introducing this Joint Congressional Resolution. NGL plans to request the assistance of USO SHOWS in this national effort and hopes the salute will become an American tradition.

—NGL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1974 OFFICIAL YEARBOOK \$2.50

02-981



# WASHINGTON REDSKINS

# '74



Photographed for Britches and Clyde's with Hasselblad 500 CM, equipped with Zeiss Planar 50mm lens. Exposure: 1/4 at f/5.6.

## At Clyde's, the house dressing is Britches.

Photographed are the ingredients of Washington's most dignified saloon. Seated at table, owner Stuart Davidson, with wife Sally, wearing a Cashmere Jacket/one hundred twenty-five dollars, Blue Oxford Shirt/fifteen dollars, Silk Rep Tie/fifteen dollars, and Calfskin Belt/fifteen dollars; all from Britches of Georgetowne. To their left, owner John Laytham, with wife Janet, wearing a Harris Tweed Suit/two hundred dollars, Camel Hair Turtleneck/sixty-five dollars, Saddle Leather Belt/ten dollars. Stationed counter clockwise remain: Bartender Mark Stamm in a Britches Safari Sportcoat/one hundred twenty-five dollars, Britches All Cotton Shirt/twenty-two fifty, Britches Corduroy Tie/eight fifty, and All Wool Twill Slacks/forty dollars; Manager Lee Dechter wearing Britches Western Shearling Coat/one hundred thirty-five dollars, Britches Western Riverboat Gambler's Hat/thirty-one dollars,

Levi Corduroy Jean/thirteen-fifty; Omelette Room Manager Suzie Thompson; Sparkles the Fire Dog wearing Britches Western Bandana/seventy-nine cents; Manager Mark Walsh's wife Maureen; Manager Chris Toomey in Britches Corduroy Norfolk Jacket/ninety-five dollars, Britches All Cotton Country Plaid Shirt/twenty-five dollars, Britches Imported Cotton Bandana/five dollars, Britches Western Jean/nine-fifty, Britches Pigskin Belt/fifteen dollars, and Windsor Hat/twelve dollars; Waitress Sandy Douyard; Chef Booker Washington wearing Britches Chronograph Watch/one hundred twenty-five dollars; Manager Mark Walsh in a Corduroy Sport Jacket/one hundred twenty-five dollars, Britches Flannel Shirt/eighteen-fifty, Britches Knitted Tie/five-fifty. Britches 1931 Mack Cities Service Fire Engine/twenty thousand dollars. All ladies' clothing by Ralph Lauren.



Georgetowne, Connecticut Ave., Tysons Corner Center, Springfield Mall. Also: Lenox Square, Atlanta, Georgia.  
**Britches Western:** Georgetowne, Montgomery Mall, Springfield Mall.  
**Clyde's,** 3236 M Street, N.W.



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Photos by Nate and Paul Fine  
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