

Harris - Harry



HARRISON, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FRANK E. RODGERS  
MAYOR

December 17, 1947

*Copy must  
appear your sending  
me a copy of "In  
Memoriam" with its  
tribute to my husband's  
memory. I will  
put it in the  
Town Library*

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Hyde Park, New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

On behalf of the citizens of the Town of Harrison, New Jersey, I am taking the privilege of forwarding herewith a copy of a 'Memorial' published in appreciation of those Harrisonians who served their Country and in particular those who made the supreme sacrifice in World War II.

Our 'Memorial' as you see is dedicated to that 'Great Humanitarian' and 'War Hero' who led our boys, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and though he is now gone to his 'Eternal Reward' will always live in our hearts.

We hope you will forgive our intrusion and we are reluctant to recall your sorrow, but, though nothing can compare with your loss, his passing was also our great loss.

Our citizens wished you to know of the reverence we have and always will retain for Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Sincerely,

*Frank E. Rodgers*

Frank E. Rodgers, Mayor  
For the Council and Citizens  
of Harrison

FER/jmc

HARRISON NJ

*Narrow*

*Thank  
appreciate your  
generosity in  
turning over  
your collection  
to Mrs WMS  
Best make*

Salt Lake City, Utah  
June 3, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Hyde Park  
New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

In thanking you for the beautiful autographed photograph which you so graciously sent me recently, may I recount a few of the many instances that came to my attention directly showing the esteem and affection in which you and President Roosevelt have been held in the hearts of people far removed from you but whose lives were touched by yours? Let me list them as they come to my memory. They were all personal experiences, - deeply moving to me, although, perhaps, not extraordinary, just simple happenings such as were occurring all over the land every day.

1. A taxi driver saying earnestly to a passenger late one evening in speaking of the President, " I pray for him every night." This was in Bingham Canyon, our great copper town.
2. A man from Italy who had worked in the coal mines of Price, one of our largest coal producing communities and who later became an importer of fine foods from Italy in one of the big firms in San Francisco, entertaining at a dinner among whose guests were two young honeymooners from Boston. These two made some flippant remark which the host interpreted as uncomplimentary to the President. His face grew stern and he said distinctly in his broad Italian accent, " I would lay down my life for the man whose name you just mentioned."
3. A fine looking colored woman who works in the Western Union offices here as matron, saying in her soft voice, "He was the greatest man since Christ. This country will never have domestic peace until it adopts his principles of tolerance and kindness."
4. A Stanford professor, Dr. James Quillan, associated with Dean Kefauver whom you undoubtedly knew, telling his class in summer session, "We must follow our great liberals, like the Roosevelts, and Eleanore even more than Franklin."
5. And last- On April 12, 1945, I sat at lunch in the coffee shop of the Hotel Utah with a woman from Scotland. We had been teaching at Topaz, a War Relocation Center, where we had lived in barracks and endured many hardships while trying to carry on with the principles of democracy in a difficult situation. She said, "If it had not been for President Roosevelt my people in Scotland would have starved". She was referring to lend-lease. She continued, " I feel that I am helping him do a job and I welcome the hardships and difficulties for his sake."

We came up the stairs together, talking in this strain, and were stunned by the news of his death.

Perhaps Miss Williams has told you that I have a rather large collection of material concerning the President which I am turning over to her as I feel that she will be able to make better use of it since I am now a retired teacher. When she comes this summer, we will go over it and she will select any articles which she does not already have. I am proud of her friendship. We agree on many things and on nothing more completely than our affection and admiration for you.

Please accept my thanks. I shall always cherish the lovely photograph and be proud that it bears your signature.

Sincerely yours,

*Jessie Harroun*

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Salt Lake City 5, Utah