

MCL

October 18, 1946  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Miss Mary Ann McLain  
529-6th, Avenue S. E.  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am a ~~graduate~~ of McKinley High School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. At the time of the ~~late~~ President's death I wrote a poem about him and I thought perhaps you might like to have it.

As I am not yet of voting age I have little interest in politics other than learning about it so I can vote sensibly. Therefore, I wrote This poem about the man and President Roosevelt, not a Republican, Democrat or politician.

I am sure most people felt as I did upon the loss of so famous a man and President.

I hope that I am not being too forward in sending this to you and I truly hope you enjoy it. ~~it~~veys to you

Very respectfully yours,  
*Mary Ann McLain*

Mary Ann McLain

## OUR LEADER

Our leader, symbol of faith and endurance  
Tower of strength, is gone.  
Never more will his silver toned voice of assurance  
Be our incentive to carry on.  
Never again will his friendly smile  
Bring joy to the hearts of our land,  
Ne'er again will we know the guidance  
Of his firm and steady hand.  
At last he has lain down his burden,  
Our President, weary, will rest,  
And we can but ask our maker  
For guidance in facing this test.  
O Lord, we do humbly beseech thee,  
In this, our dark hour of sorrow,  
To give us the strength and the courage we need,  
To fulfill his great dreams of tomorrow.

By Mary Ann McLain.