Mr. G. L. Jeffrey 4510 Berini Drive Durham, North Carolina 27705

Dear Jeff:

The copy of your letter of 7 July to Bill Comen has been on the desk all these days awaiting a time when I could make certain that he had responded to your letter. I have now talked with him and hope I understand to some degree the reasons for this letter.

In no way would I like to restrict your freedom of choice or action or that of Ellen. That said, I must record here my deep personal regret at your resignation from the Duke Memorial Administrative Board and Nominations Committee.

Please be sure that the same process by which these resignations are made known and effective is a process available to change them, should you so desire. You certainly are free to do whatever you believe to be God's will and direction for you and your family. I hope we are free to say, not only for myself but for others, that the time will come when you will be able with a whole and glad heart to pick up these relationships.

It is my understanding that Bob Wallace asked if he might talk with you about matters related to things in your letter and that you asked him not to do so at this time. This is the reason I have not telephoned you to set up a visit. It is the same thing I have mentioned above—trying to give you all the freedom in the world that I should like in a similar situation and respecting your freedom.

Whatever you do, my prayer is for God's leading for you, for Ellen and for your children.

With concern, love and good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Edward F. Smith

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