

April 29, 1980

Bear Sam,

What a pleasure it was to hear from you. I did not recall that I was mentioned in the Hopkins Medical News, but Mary tells me that I did fill out an information card some time ago.

Am sorry to hear that you will be needing coronary surgery, but if your status is as it seems this should be a very low risk and satisfactory procedure. I just returned home after the annual meeting of the American Surgical Association, and there were reports there that strongly suggest that after this procedure the outlook is almost the same as if there had been no necessity for the operation at all. Even the porcine graft has a good record.

I did serve on the cardiovascular classification panel for the FEDA for four years, the maximal time one may do this continuously, but have not been involved with this activity for some years. As an aftermath, however, I am now president of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation, which is rather in an adversarial position to the FBA. It all becomes very interesting at times.

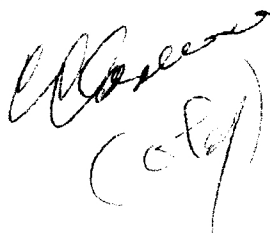
I enjoy very good health and am very active, doing major operations in the Northport VA Hospital, the VA Hospital of the State Univ. at Stony Brook about once a week. Our new University Hospital at Stony Brook has just opened, and I have a patient coming in from San Diego day after tomorrow to baptize the program. I believe I have operated on the poor girl at least ten times before for Crohn's disease, and will be patching up an ileostomy on this occasion. She is a good girl and a survivor of my program on vagotomy for inflammatory bowel disease of about 1950, none of whom have died of the disease since that time. So, it is all very exciting.

Sam, we should really try to set up a reunion of our class of 1935 for this June. I was a participant in trying to set up a program for our anniversary for 1975, but things piled up on me and I could not carry through even after trying to be a participant in planning same. What are the chances of setting up a good one this year?

I wish you all success with your operation and firmly expect you to come out smelling like a rose. Please let me know your thoughts and your ideas about the possible reunion.

May all go happily with your surgical progress!

Yours,



W. H. Green
(copy)