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Correspondence: Anne & Arnaud Morts
and Christopher W. Breiseth 1988-1989



April 28, 1988

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Dear Anne:

As we finalize our plans for Wilkes College's Commencement on May 22, you are often in my thoughts. I am truly delighted to incorporate a tribute to Dr. Marts in the day's ceremonies by awarding him posthumously an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. Of course I wish this award had been given during his lifetime, but by its inclusion now we pay homage to the man most responsible for the founding of this college, and at the same time, we highlight the unique history of Wilkes.

I realize from your note to me following our phone conversation several weeks ago that your health may not permit your attendance here on that day. I believe Betsy Condron mentioned to you that if, as the day approaches, you feel able to join us, we would be thrilled to provide you a driver and any accommodations necessary to ensure a comfortable trip to and from Wilkes-Barre.

I plan to be in New York City soon after our '88 graduation, and if you have not been able to be with us for the degree ceremony, I would like to bring Dr. Marts' citation to you. In the meantime, Jane joins me in sending warm regards.

Sincerely,

Christopher N. Breiseth

CNB:ah

Dear Dr. Breiseth:

Thank you and Mrs. Condron for your kind invitation to Wilke's College Commencement on May 22nd. Also for your kind offer of transportation to and from Wilkes.

It's nice of you to incorporate a tribute to Dr. Msrts in the day's ceremonies by awarding him posthumously an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters . My sincere thanks to you.

Although I will not be present when it is done, I feel proud of this honor and tribute to my dear Arno. Even so it is physical and painful for me so I ask you to please excuse and forgive me from being present.

I will be glad to see you whenever you come to New York.

Again thank you, and with kind regards to you and Jane.

Truly yours,

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts

May 9, 1988

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth,
President, Wilkes College,
Wilkes Barre, Pa. 18766



May, 1989

Dear Alumnus/Alumna,

I am delighted to have the opportunity to report to you the historic events occurring here recently. While you will be reading much about them in our upcoming WILKES TOMORROW Newsletter, I did want to outline a few for you now.

With more than 750 alumni, parents, friends and trustees present, we dedicated the new Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center in mid-February. On the same day as the dedication our Board of Trustees reached a momentous and far-reaching decision to increase the overall goal of the WILKES TOMORROW Campaign from \$18 million to \$23 million. I am sure this comes as a great surprise to you, but the reasons are well thought out and full of promise.

First, we have already surpassed the endowment objectives of the original campaign (\$2.5 million for student scholarships and faculty salaries) even before reaching the end of the planned five-year time (1985-1990). The campaign overall has exceeded \$16.6 million with one year to go and it is clear that we can surpass the original goal. Second, the campaign for the Marts Center is still \$3 million short of the goal. We want to fund the Center out of campaign proceeds rather than out of operating budget (primarily tuition) or endowment. Third, we are just beginning an earnest approach to alumni and the early response has been very encouraging. Thus we are focusing on raising the additional dollars for the Marts Center from alumni.

I want you to know how inspired I am by the alumni response to our campaign. Practically no one we have asked has turned us down. Total alumni giving in the campaign to date is nearing \$1 million. We are confident that we can raise at least an additional \$1 million from alumni at large, while continuing to develop leads to a single \$1 million gift and bring to closure the solicitation of major prospects here in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Why am I so optimistic? So many alumni have told me that without Wilkes they would probably not have achieved the success they now enjoy. "Wilkes has never asked me before for a significant gift," said many alumni we have approached.

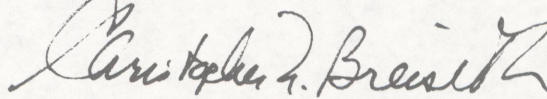
The process we have begun is to meet with a small group of alumni to plan an event in their area which brings together all alumni with people from the

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College. It has been wonderful to see the interaction that occurs and the excitement that these gatherings generate. We are asking alumni to consider making a significant impact, through a stretch gift to the objectives of our campaign, to assure a Wilkes education for future generations of students.

It has become clear to all of us working closely with the campaign that beyond even the importance of the spectacular new building, the legacy of the WILKES TOMORROW Campaign will be the dramatically increased involvement of alumni around the country in the future of Wilkes. Now we look to you. This is the time for you to take greater responsibility for the College. Your significant gift will provide the impact needed to make this Campaign a success. Your decision is critical.

Sincerely,



Christopher N. Breiseth
President

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RISEING BOND



August 2, 1989

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Dear Anne:

What a lovely time Jane and I had with you this past Friday. I am afraid you got more of us than you bargained for. It was the perfect place for a couple of sun-loving Illinoisians to sit on your porch and have our discussion about Abraham Lincoln. I am most grateful that you invited Dr. Strozier to join me in your home for our visit. Among many other bonds that link us, I am the godfather of his son Christopher who is named for me.

You were wonderful to make that most generous contribution to the Arnaud C. Marts Center. It is most gratefully received. A good deal of my time at present is being spent to raise an additional \$3 million needed to finish our repayment on the bonds we floated to carry out the construction; thus your gift was particularly welcome at this time.

Anne, I have thought a good deal about your comments in reference to Larry. Let me share a personal reaction. I think you might consider asking Vincent Cuttita to call Larry for you to convey any concerns you have, even if only to urge Larry to come to see you. You will know whether you are comfortable with the suggestion, but it pains me to think that you are not in touch with someone who is so important for your affairs. I mention this, in part, because you indicated how much Vincent has been offering to help you with anything that you wish him to do. I find, in the variety of my dealings, that I get into trouble when I am out of touch with key people in my life and in my job. Vincent might help you with Larry. Forgive me if this is presumptuous on my part, but I came away with a sense of your frustration on this matter.

I hope you have enjoyed the dedication tape despite the poor audio quality. When we got back to Wilkes-Barre we had the Commencement tape played and, indeed, Bill Bradley's speech was on it. We apparently began watching the tape in your livingroom in the middle of the tape rather than having it rewound to the beginning. I must become more capable with my audio/visual skills.

We went to the Cafe Loup, where our old Springfield, Illinois friend was tending bar, and had a lovely meal before going to see M. Butterfly. We both enjoyed it thoroughly and arrived home about 1:30 a.m. Tonight we have long-time friends from Springfield, Illinois coming to visit us on their way through to Rhode Island. Summer is a time of getting back in touch and it was wonderful to feel that we were back in touch with you. Keep well.

Love,
Chris

ref -
this effort
to be in
with me
helps me
have a great
day in Wilkes
Barre
Center for
Arts & Sciences
with the
new building
I hope we can
take the next
step and
make it a
great place
for everyone
to enjoy

