

January 5, 2003

hi Richie!

I hope this letter finds you doing well under the circumstances. I have been praying for you and I believe that this year will have some nice things in store for you. My heart goes out to you, Richie, at your loss. But I have asked the Lord to show you mercy and to comfort your heart.

Right now there's almost two feet of snow outside my little window. It's going to be a long winter up this way, and I'm sure it's not as bad where you are.

I have your letter dated December 23rd. I want to wish you a happy birthday. I had no card to mail out but you know my birthday wishes were with you.

Well now this year is history as far as the Giants go. They lost earlier this evening. It was an exciting game and the guys were going wild. I'm not really a football fan, however. I still would love to see the Jets keep going and maybe make the Superbowl - a long shot I know.

You asked me for a photo and then you asked me to draw you a picture of what I look like. For some reason this put me ill at ease. I know you were kind of joking but it spooked me.

I don't think you really understand what I go through, and the pain and grief I have in my heart over the past. And even 25 years later the media still chases me around.

I am ashamed of the past and I want to move on. I have a fear that some people write to me for other motives. It's a sick world out there and recently someone even printed a bunch of fabrications about me in a magazine. This has been such a difficult thing to deal with. If it were not for God's grace I wouldn't make it.

I do not have a recent photo and I have no interest in drawing anything. In fact, a few years ago a guy in here showed me some kind of catalog or something in which an

alleged drawing by me was for sale. He asked me about it and what I thought of it. After looking at the picture out of curiosity I was instantly able to recognize that the stupid drawing was certainly not mine. I never drew the dumb thing and I told him so. It was a forgery and someone was obviously swindling people by trying to sell it.

After this I became suspicious of some people I was writing to who would occasionally ask me to draw something. I never did and I wouldn't. You understand, of course.

I'm glad that Barbara is doing well. God bless you, Richie. I wish you the best. My faith in God is strong. I am looking forward to some good things this year.

your friend & bro,

Dave