Dear Doctor Shantz:

When you retire from active duty many of us here in Washington—and for that matter, throughout the Forest Service—are going to miss the pleasure of close association with a very human individual.

You are known in this country and abroad for your contributions in the field of science and your able interpretation of the natural laws which affect the use of the soil and its products. We honor you for the nieces you have collected in that sphere. But other attributes further epitomize the downright admiration and affection we hold for you—and make for enduring friendships.

Outstanding among these are your unerring sense of humor, your inexhaustible interest in the world about you, and your sympathetic understanding of human nature. We could, with profit, emulate your kindness toward all and your efficiency in adversity.

It has been a pleasure to know you, a privilege to work with you. Our names on this scroll witness, but cannot measure, our real sentiments. Best wishes to both you and Mrs. Shantz—may your trials and ours cross frequently.