

February 13, 1978

Mr. D. Wade Spears  
1305 South Main Street  
Hopkinsville, ~~Kennel~~ <sup>Tennessee</sup> 42240

Dear Mr. Spears:

You were very kind to ask me to write down the following prayer:

O God, we thank thee for the gift of life thus for we have received so bountifully from thy caring hand. We bless thee for thy presence here now, for we know that thou art always near. We ask your gift of courage and will to live of \_\_\_\_\_.

We ask that he/she may sense our love and your love upholding him/her. We know that the fullest length of life is always wanting to erose death from life. We know that death is a part of thy creation of all creatures. Yet we thank thee that neither death nor life, things present nor things to come can separate us from thee and Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Grant \_\_\_\_\_ a serenity and an inner peace from the knowledge of thy eternal love. In the name of him who died, who was raised from the dead and lives ever more, Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen

It was a profound and meaningful privilege to be with you and the rest of the workshop yesterday.

Faithfully yours,

Wayne E. Oates, Th.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
Director, Program in Ethics and Pastoral Counseling

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