

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Shane,

This note brings concern and sympathy for you both in what must be very trying and frustrating times at Swarthmore. Bill and I share real grief at Courtney Smith's death. If moral support and prayers can be sent across the miles, you have ours in abundance.

So fondly,

3 February 1969

Jois Thompson Murray

February 10, 1969

Dear Lois and Bill:

Both Mrs. Shane and I appreciate so much your note. All of us find these times most trying and believe me, we will miss Courtney Smith's leadership. I hope we have the strength and courage to carry on.

It is hard to express all parts of so complex a situation but I am happy that Swarthmore stayed peaceful and constructive and the faculty acted in reflection on problems which it had already identified and set for itself. We all kept our heads and stayed fair, and I think it was due to Courtney Smith's clear and fair leadership. President Smith was never, to the very last, a man to be put off or be confused by problems however difficult they might be.

We are all united in believing that the Admissions Office sit-in by the Afro-American Students Society, although orderly, was unrepresentative of "Swarthmore's way", since force however orderly is antithetical to the reasonable methods we have always stood for. We are convinced that we must find ways to avoid so-called direct action in the future.

Ed Cratsley has told me about your contribution which is to be assigned to the memorial fund. I send you a receipt and thanks.

With all good wishes, I am

Truly yours,

Joseph B. Shane  
Vice President

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Murray  
A. A. 4351  
Cali, Colombia  
South America