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Edward T. Clark, Jr., PhD
President

December 3, 1994

Dear Alan,

We're finally settled for a while and I wanted to write and tell you how much I appreciated your friendship and the time(s) we spent together in Guadalajara. Needless to say, it was delightful. You certainly added a zest and a flavor to our conference which was appreciated by everyone who participated. I just hope that we'll have the opportunity for a similar experience next fall.

We had a strange trip back to Chicago. Our flight left Guadalajara on time for San Francisco but in a few minutes the pilot announced that he couldn't get the plane pressurized and we'd have to circle until he received instructions. After close to 45 minutes he told us he was going to Mexico City - and we knew for sure then that we'd miss our San Francisco/Chicago connections. I could see us arriving in Chicago in the wee hours. To our amazement, we found that there was a direct flight from Mexico City to Chicago leaving 45 minutes after we landed - which meant we arrived home at 4:00 p.m. instead of 8 p.m. on Sunday as anticipated. Wasn't that a surprise! Because, early on the following Wednesday we left for a week in Boise for Thanksgiving with our family. It was the first time we had all been together for sometime and was a great joy.

I am sending you a brief paper I put together for some of the national Elderhostel staff earlier in the fall. It presents a perspective and maps a vision I have about taking my program to Elders. The program is essentially what I presented in Guadalajara - a program which seems increasingly clear to me as the challenge of my next professional incarnation! I've already begun to expand the paper focus on Ecoliteracy: Creating a Context for Global Cooperation by 2020 or Ecoliteracy: A Strategy for Living With Paradox.

I hope things are well with you. I have often thought back to our conversations. I vividly remember the visceral impact of your statement, "Nothing was divided and there is nothing to unite!" That insight alone made the entire trip worthwhile.

I would like to keep in touch. Margaret joins me in sending warm regards and hearty affection.

Ed