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JFK - C-SPAN,
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Washington, D.C. 20001

D- Amos

Dear C-Span Staff,

I've been tuning into the American Presidents series I missed the first fifteen Presidents over the Summer/Spring. But what I have seen on the Presidents there on, is excellent coverage.

My favorite President would have to be John F. Kennedy, because I grew up during that decade. JFK was the first President I saw on television, giving a speech, even though I didn't know what the Civil Rights Movement was about at that time, because I was only seven years old.

I somehow knew that this movement was a just cause. Unfortunately, the next time I saw JFK on television was during cartoon programs, I believe The Bullwinkle Show was airing when the news came on to inform the world that President Kennedy had been shot by Lee Harvey Oswald. I'll never forget that my thoughts were who would shoot a person who's doing good for others. And I was glued in front of the TV, it felt like a week, I would turn the Tv on and all four channels were occupied by the death of JFK.

I also took a lot of status at school, because of Lee Harvey Oswald's name. I'm only eight years old when this tragedy occurred, who is this Lee Harvey Oswald? I asked myself. And then when Lee Harvey Oswald was about to testify, a Jack Ruby shoots him down. Just when the world was going to see some light as to the meaningless murder of JFK, another man murders, and then Jack Ruby is murdered. It was so bizarre, conspiracy went through my mind even though I didn't have a clue as to what the meaning of conspiracy meant at the time.

Then The Beatles came along in February of 1964, to help some/many of us to feel better. Then Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot, by this time I had a better idea what the Civil Movement was about. But when Robert Kennedy ran for the 1968 Presidential candidate, I felt psychic, because I had a gut feeling he was going to die. He would have won in 1968, no doubt in my mind.

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President Reagan I feel will go down as one of the most sought of President's in American history, he help the economy boom and for the most part during the 1980's things went rather smoothly. Until President Bush came to office, he goes down as one of the least favorite President's we've had. For a short period of time I had to go on welfare during George Bush's term in the White House, he took everything out of New Hampshire that Ronald Reagan built up. I lost a farmhouse I lived in for eleven and a half years during the 1980's to watch it all go away in 1991, George Bush took the life out of New Hampshire, there was no work out there to be found. The unemployment rate shot up to sky rocket numbers, businesses were folding up left and right throughout the State of New Hampshire. And I'm still angry at his administration, George Bush as far as I'm concerned made enemies out of friends and families when he was in the White House. Thank God, he didn't get re-elected.

Bill Clinton's a saint compared to some Presidents U.S. has had.

President Clinton should be remembered for the strong economy, and a steady one throughout two terms. One blemish with the Lewinsky scandal, but should that affair over-ride all the other good points during President Clinton's terms? I don't think so, I would say Clinton is one of the plus President's America's had. So, here are I feel are the most beloved Paesident's overall:

- 1.- John F. Kennedy
- 2.- George Washington (founder of liberty, where would America be without him?)
- 3.- Abraham Lincoln (kept a Nation together during a crucial period in American history.)
- 4.- Franklin Roosevelt (handicapped President with the weight of the world on his shoulders during his two terms.)
- 5.- Theodore Roosevelt (he did so much for America, he preserved America at a time in need.)
- 6.- Thomas Jefferson (well known for his teachings and writings on moral issues.)
- 7.- Dwight Eisenhower (the fabulous fifties and Eisenhower will be remembered for his part during this fruitful decade.)
- 8.- Harry Truman (hard decisions during hard times, ending WWII, Truman will help kick off the fabulous fifties.)
- 9.- Ulysses S. Grant (try stepping into the shoes of Grant after the Lincoln assassination, Grant helped worn torn America get back on its feet.)
- 10.- Ronald Reagan (from movie star to President, I feel he did a very good job during his Presidency.)
- 11.- Grover Cleveland & Calvin Coolidge (great times during the late 1890's & the roaring twenties, sorry I missed them!)

Thanks for taking the time to read my letters!

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I remember my mother asking me if I would like to be President when get older? And I replied, "I don't think I would because it's too dangerous." The 1960's growing up had more changes than any decade in American history, from 1960 to 1969, there was so much going on from every walk of life.

There were a number of highs and lows throughout the ten year span, it was like taking all these ingredients from life and throwing them into one another and shaking them up vigorously to see what the outcome would be.

The 60's produced JFK, Rock and Roll was in it's infancy, Elvis Presley, the automobile industry was booming, The Civil Rights Movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, The Motown Sound, Folk Music protesting against the establishment, Bob Dylan, Television, The Ed Sullivan Show, The Vietnam War, The San Francisco peace and love movement, drugs of every shape, size and form, The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, the first man on the moon, Woodstock generation, and that's just the tip of the iceberg during that turbulent decade.

The three Presidents during that decade, JFK, LBJ and Richard Nixon, changed the course of politics. Lyndon B. Johnson I think took it the hardest during his presidential years in the White House. He didn't want to be there, and I would not have wanted to be in his shoes at that time. My brother still has this portrait of a hippy carrying a sign that says, LSD yes, LBJ no.

I believe like most people during Nixon second term the faith of politicians waned considerably. I felt Nixon should have never won the 1972 election, there was this feeling of something not right here. I lost interest in the faith of the President from here on until Ronald Reagan's term.

I graduated during the Watergate trials from high school in 1974. At this time I knew Gerald Ford was Vice President, but had no idea who he was or what he achieved during his political years. It was just a mess during the 1970's, I remember starving during Gerald Ford's term, and couldn't wait for the next election. There were many times during the summer of 1975 and 1976, where I went without food for three days, there was no work in this area whatsoever. I was a bone rack in those days. Jimmy Carter was a blessing when he was nominated, and things started looking up on this end of the pen.

Peanuts were abundant during Mr. Carter's term, and Billy Beer! Jobs were out there by this time, although Carter wasn't one of the most thought after Presidents, he did alright in my book.