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APRIL 30, 2020

PRISON UNIVERSITY PROJECT
PO BOX 492
SAN QUENTIN, CA 94964

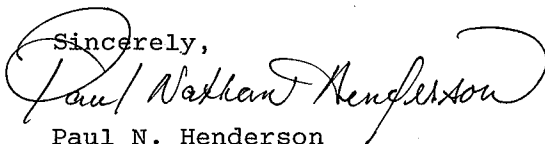
Ms. Lewen:

Please share my words, and my gratitude, with all those who made possible the gift we all received. Thank you, truly. Not only for remembering us during a time when the imprisoned can be easily forgotten but also for doing so all year round; for giving people an opportunity to experience themselves in a positive light, both prisoners and all those involved with the Prison University Project/Mt. Tamalpais College alike.

One critique I often have of my younger self, is that I subconsciously wanted others to be more considerate of me, my life and what "I" was going through than I was willing to be of their situation. This perspective wasn't because I was inherently selfish or bad, but rather, in part, because considering people beyond assessing the threat or the good they represented to my well-being hadn't been exemplified for me. For the most part, the concerns of incarceration tend to reinforce such a point of view. Which, in my opinion, makes what the individuals of your organization do so much more than just about providing an education to prisoners. You each are an example of selflessness. Of compassion. Of courage. And of the resiliency and strength it takes to exemplify these things in an environment where such traits are erroneously believed to be weaknesses.

As such, I couldn't let this opportunity to thank and encourage you go by. Nor miss an opportunity to point out to your students that there's more to learn from a teacher than just the subject they teach.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Nathan Henderson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Paul N. Henderson