July 17, 2001

Dear Scott -

I was just sitting here waiting for someone and I thought about dropping you a note just to say hi and share a few thoughts. It occurred to me that I've grown a lot since we last spoke and I've become a much happier person able to go through life without antagonizing those around me. It's taken me a long time to learn about how to do that — over two years of therapy in fact — and how to develop an "inner life" that has values that provide a framework for leading a productive and happy life. I used to direct my anger at you a lot and I did and said some very unpleasant things in the course of our relationship and I'd like to apologize for that. I had a lot of growing up to do in order to see how I was "projecting" my problems and issues into the world as a way of dealing with them. In many respects it was the "loss" of so much that opened my eyes—the loss of money from leaving Enron, the loss of much of what I did make making bad investments, the loss of the job I got after Enron, that made it possible for me to realize that I had a lot to learn about how the world works and where happiness comes from. As I get further down that path I am able to look back and see things in a different light and that certainly includes our relationship.

My family benefited enormously from the money you helped me earn, from the opportunities you helped create for me. I gave everyone in my family over \$50,000 — each of my three sisters, my brother and my mother. This had a tremendous impact on their lives — my youngest sister got a nursing degree, one of my other sisters got a library science degree. My mother got a new kitchen and a new car and some vacation time. I used the money that I didn't invest in high tech to buy a house in the country in Oregon and to take classes in glass making and some things like that. My house (my first ever) gave me a place to relax and read and work on new projects, make new friends, and enjoy nature. It's worked out well for me. Right now I'm working on starting an architectural glass company with some folks I've met in Portland.

I still read about and study high tech – things like UDDI and ebXML and SOAP and all that jazz. I think someday I'll get back into that, too. But as for now I'm happy to just practice some skills in the low tech world and enjoy life out from under the black cloud of walking around angry all the time.

So this is just a note to say that if I had to do it over again I'd have found a way to be a better business partner and to get along better, take better advantage of the opportunities you afforded me. But in my own way I ended up learning the lessons I needed to learn (I hope) and so things are working out as they tend to generally for most folks.

I hope you are well despite the challenges of Enron and the communications industry in general. Send my best wishes to Susan and your children and if you ever feel like being in touch feel free to do so: bill@wmcollins.com or 503 975-5768.

--Bill Collins

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Sugarland TX



