

August 14, 1993

Dear Julie

Yuri & Bill ✓

Michi & Walter

Kyoji

George

Stanley

Taxi ✓ *glue*

In hopes that I will not inadvertently insult the feelings of friends, instead of calling you individually or separately, I am writing this memo to all.

As the invitation copy written and smartly designed by Yuri and Bill was indeed warm and truly appropriate, it was not my intention to suggest that the piece was lacking in any way. My fear was that the mangling by the post office diminished its effectiveness. If I had known the consensus favored protecting it in envelopes, I would have brought more along. Please accept my apologies.

On another thought:

If we tally 125 attendees for the dinner, we shall be paying the restaurant \$3,125 at \$25 a head. The balance of the \$50 charge would then also be \$3,125 that would be given as a gift to the Kida's--minus miscellaneous expenses we incur.

If I may be audacious again, would it not be gracious and considerate as well to at least invite those who are contributing special creative gifts to the event. That would include:

- The cake designer/maker (could cost \$100 plus)
- The scroll-citation artist (estimate for skill??)
- Floral arrangement (costly)
- Professional photography (expensive)
- Specialized PR copy (expensive)

I object to exploiting the talents and experience of the above in the name of a worthy cause. The \$25 invitation would be minimal to the committee, a small dent in the monetary gift, but a meaningful gesture of appreciation to these donors...who would enjoy participating and perhaps being introduced at the event for their distinctive efforts.

Also if I am not mistaken my feeling is that Mr. Kida, humble as he is, would be profoundly moved by the above gifts more than receiving a large monetary gift.

If the preceding is acceptable, my further chutzpah would be to suggest sending a note to each so that the invitation would not sound as a grudging afterthought. Something like the following:

Dear _____

We deeply appreciate your creative contribution for the Kida's.

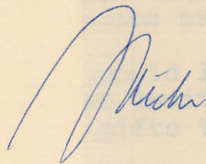
Please be our guest, too, at the Flower Drum restaurant, 856 Second Ave, 2:00 PM, Sunday, September 19th.

We will confirm reservations with the restaurant by September 10th. Kindly call Taxi that you will certainly join us in the festivities.

Taxi: 226-0896

So much for being a provoker, but with confidence I can be candid among those I admire beyond measure.

fondly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard".