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Roy White
The Roy White Foundation
210 Summit Avenue
Montvale, NJ 07645

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Dear Roy,

I don't know if you remember me, but back in the late seventies we used to write to each other all the time.

I was about 11 or 12 and battling leukemia. My father took me to my first ball game around then and you won the game for the Yankees by hitting a homerun in the 9th inning. You became my idol from that day on.

My father encouraged me to write to you, and I was elated when you wrote back. Soon after, my father met someone who knew someone who knew you, and I learned that you lived in Upper Saddle River. I started addressing my letters to you as "Roy White, Upper Saddle River, NJ" and somehow they got to you and you answered each and every one. Your wife even forwarded my letters to you when you were playing in Japan, and again you answered them all.

We even met a couple of times at the stadium before games. My father sent you a letter about my illness and you actually came over to the stands to meet me.

I was totally cured of the leukemia when I was about 13. Now, at the age of 41, I hear my two kids talking about their baseball heroes. While some players

may hit homeruns or pitch shutouts, I can't think of any name in sports history that symbolizes hero more than Roy White. When I was sick and needed someone to look up to, you were there. As famous, and as busy as you were, you answered every single one of my letters personally – even from Japan.

After you left the Yankees, I gradually stopped following baseball as much as I used to. A few weeks ago, I was telling my friend the stories of how we used to write to each other and he mentioned that you recently coached for the Yankees, so I did some research on the Internet and found your web site. I just had to send you this letter to say hello again after all these years. I want you to know how much your friendship meant to me and how you made my battle against leukemia a little easier to fight and eventually overcome. Today's players, and the kids your foundation supports, are lucky to have someone of your character to coach them, as they will learn a lot more from you than just baseball.

Your Old Friend,

David Stern