

Revd. Dr. B. B. Thiering
P.O. Box 556
Emigrant, Montana 59027
The United States of America
Phone (406) 333-4959

March 2, 1990

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Gilbert A. Case since 1962 when he first joined the Staff of Cranbrook School, Bellevue Hill, as an Assistant Master in English. Here he soon made his mark, with his brilliant mind, his care for the students and his sense of humour. At Cranbrook he became Assistant Head of a fine English Department and Housemaster of Strickland House, where his pastoral care skills flowered. Since then I have followed his career as a colleague and friend, as he moved first to Brisbane Grammar School and then to St. Paul's Bald Hills as Headmaster. It was here I had the pleasure of working with him as Associate Chaplain from 1987 to 1989.

Mr. Case is a truly multi-talented man with an exceptional capacity of mind, a fertile imagination and seemingly indefatigable energy. As Headmaster of St. Paul's, he has demonstrated an infectious enthusiasm and ability to create and maintain the vision "of excellence" over the years. He has a great tenacity of purpose.

He is a dynamic and vital person who can inspire both staff and students to think creatively beyond the bounds of mere conformity. He is a master teacher who enjoys the cut and thrust of class discussion. He makes good use of the Socratic method, where his perceptive questions encourage the students to make their own discoveries.

As an Administrator, Gilbert Case is able to explain complex concepts and procedures to small and large groups cogently, clearly and effectively. He is also able to maintain the delicate balance between "task-orientation" and concern for the person in his managerial mode. That is, he gets things done quickly and well, but not at the expense of people. He has moreover the ability to delegate responsibility to trusted colleagues. I found it refreshing the way Gilbert Case was quick to recognize situations with students, parent and Common Room, where counselling was likely to be more fruitful and therapeutic. Consequently as he involved the Chaplains, the Counsellor or the Housemaster, he not only was assured of long-term follow-up, but also recognized the dignity and delicacy of our function. This teamwork increased our sense of commitment and dedication to the school family.

Mr. Case has justly earned a 'growing reputation' as an educational leader in the periods he has served as Chairman of the Queensland Association of Headmaster and Headmistresses of Independent Schools. At this level too,

- 2 -

he has demonstrated himself to be thoughtful and perceptive, well-read and responsible. Here also he applies his Christian principles to his educational philosophy in a consistent and effective way. So that when he speaks many listen.

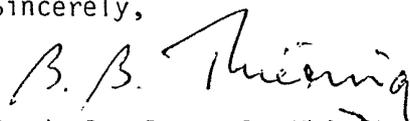
In all and through all, I have enjoyed his masterful and elegant use of the English language both in speaking and writing.

Mr. Case's interests extend beyond the core subjects of English, Mathematics and the Sciences to Music, Art, Drama, Debating and Sports, where his encouragement to Staff and students is even-handed and most appreciated. He is himself a fine pianist and is the organist at the parish church which uses the School Chapel.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to his wife Pamela who is not only a good friend and a wise counsellor well grounded in common sense, but also enters fully and effectively into the behind-the-scenes tasks and wide activities of the school life and community.

It is an honor and a pleasure to commend him as a man of integrity and great ability. If I can provide you with any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


Rev. Dr. Barry B. Thiering

BBT:nc