Henri Temianka correspondence; (Pencovic)

Description
This collection contains material pertaining to the life, career, and activities of Henri Temianka, violin virtuoso, conductor, music teacher, and author. Materials include correspondence, concert programs and flyers, music scores, photographs, and books.

This letter is available at Chapman University Digital Commons: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/temianka_correspondence/2888
Dearest Emmy + Henri:

You will be pleased to see a note in my own (albeit shaky) handwriting! I am now home and am really feeling pretty well, considering my recent and ongoing trauma. I find the stairs no problem and though I must be careful how I reach/stretch, have little discomfort and even did the dishes after dinner last night. The dreadful symptoms seem to have gone - the awful lassitude and inertia and hours of sleeping, with the slight nausea, and shortness of breath, etc. I actually feel better, even with the post-op problems!

I do have lymphoma, one of the intermediate types of lymphatic cancer, but it is treatable and arrestable with chemo-therapy and the prognosis is good. The treatments themselves are the pits, but they only last a couple of days - the unpleasantness, I mean. Well, one step at a time! I begin in 2 weeks on this course, but as you well know, I'm a tough old turkey, otherwise fit, and will give it a good go. If anyone will recover, it will be me, as far as my spirit is concerned...

I do want you both to know how very much I appreciate all the attention and love from you both - the phone calls, the lovely flowers, the tapes, the hospital visits, and the very obvious caring. It has done me a great deal of good, this outpouring from friends and family. It was there when it mattered, and was a positive part of the recovery process. You are dears, and we love you both.

I will certainly like little notes now and then while I'm at home convalescing, so don't hesitate to "take pen in hand" now and then. Fingers are healing up admirably, and hope it continues - we both need all the health we can get at this point! We join in sending all love and good wishes to you both.

Your Alexis

I lost 25 pounds, and look like an El Greco St. Jerome - all bones, loose skin, and scrawn!
29 October 1982

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I will certainly like little notes now and then while I’m at home convalescing, so don’t hesitate to “take pen in hand” now and then. Fred is bearing up admirably, and hope it continues—we both need all the health we can get, at this point! We join in sending all love and good wishes to you both.

Yours,

Alexis

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