



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 13, 1976

Dear Mr. Pearsall:

During this 200th anniversary year of our great Nation's birth, it is a pleasure for me to extend to you my heartfelt congratulations on your being named the 1976 National Small Business Person of the Year. It is an exceptional honor, and you can take great satisfaction that, from among the 9.8 million small business owners and managers in this country, you have been designated as most outstanding.

Small business is the cornerstone of our national economy. It stands as a symbol of American independence and individualism. Throughout our history, entrepreneurship has helped to keep us free, and I am sure it will continue to do so in our bright future.

Please accept my best wishes for enduring prosperity and every continued success in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gerald R. Ford".

Mr. Duane D. Pearsall
President
Statitrol Corporation
140 South Union Boulevard
Lakewood, Colorado 80228



AP/WIDE WORLD