

Dear Robbie,

I was happy to hear that you are taking great care of a very special lacrosse stick. While lacrosse is an amazing sport that requires skill, athleticism, and strategy, dating back to the Indian tribes who invented the game, lacrosse has also always had a significant spiritual side to it that you are no doubt getting a sense for by now. Lacrosse, for me, has been much more than simply a sport. It has taught me toughness, perseverance, and humility, and its lessons have also prepared me for the many ups and downs in life that I have had to face off with.

Like that stick that has been passed down to you with a story, as lacrosse players we are mentored and taught by those that came before us. There is a phrase I have been taught that I would like to share with you; I hope it helps to influence some of your decisions and your respect of the game. It goes like this... "We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us." While the many individual accolades I have received throughout my career have been rewarding and humbling, none of them compare to the feeling of being a part of a team...part of a winning team with a sense of destiny and/or legacy...part of a winning team in this great sport of Lacrosse or 'Baggataway.' I am most proud of the Championship Teams I was blessed to have played on and the respect we were able to show those players before us who had paved the way for our success.

Enjoy that special and spiritual stick and listen to the many lessons it will teach you. And pick up one of my favorite books, *My Personal Best*, by John Wooden. John Wooden was a remarkable teacher, coach and mentor of young men and his UCLA Men's Basketball Teams won 10 NCAA National Championships in 12 years. I hope you enjoy Coach Wooden's life lessons and fun stories as much as I have.

All the best,

Billy Miller

Hobart College, Turnbull Award 1989, 1991  
Philadelphia Wings '92-'98  
USA World Team '94, '98  
National Lacrosse Hall of Fame, Class of 2013