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To Anyone Planning an Estate Sale:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Wendy Gerdau and Treasures Estate Sales, who did a wonderful, sensitive job for me in 2004, in organizing and conducting the sale of my Aunt's large collection of antiques and estate items.

My Aunt was Catherine Preston, widow of actor Robert Preston, and sister of my Mother. Catherine had asked me to head her estate ten years before she passed away, shortly after Robert's death. I knew that she cared especially about her antiques, which she collected and loved and filled her homes with over the many years since she and Robert were married in 1940. I wanted to make sure that their sale was handled right.

Wendy Gerdau and Treasures Estate Sales were recommended to me by the realtor handling the sale of Catherine's Brentwood home. It was filled with her antiques, as was her other beautiful home, in Santa Barbara. Wendy walked with me through both homes, looking at the pieces. She showed a dazzlingly encyclopedic and detailed knowledge of the antiques, their makers and their value. But I could also feel her love, so much like Catherine's, for these antiques, and her appreciation for Catherine's collecting style and knowledge. She certainly felt like the right person to sell them.

Wendy and her devoted, professional crew organized the sale marvelously. They cleaned the Brentwood house, which Catherine had not lived in for some years, until it was spic and span, and arranged and displayed the antiques from both houses there, with flair and sensitivity. Although they were not for sale, Wendy had hung pictures of Catherine and Robert throughout the home, which seemed to bring life back into it. When I walked through the house the day before the sale, it brought joyful tears to my eyes, to see it brought back in this way, one more time.

Wendy provided her own tough, professional security staff to guard both now-vacant houses in the period surrounding the sales. Wendy and her crew packed and shipped non-sale items from both houses, and emptied both houses thoroughly of all items and cleaned them, for the sale of the houses themselves.

I give Wendy Gerdau and Treasures Estate Sales my highest recommendation for an estate sale. I cannot imagine anyone better.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Charles Leinenweber'.

Dr. Charles Leinenweber