

RUSTY LUCAS
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Pro Football Hall of Fame
2121 George Halas Drive NW
Canton, OH 44708
ATTN: Lost and Found

Dear Pro Football Hall of Fame,

I was touring your facility with my family last summer. I met them for an afternoon of good football and good times. While I was there, I think I lost my stuffed toy monkey. I remember I was wearing a bright yellow hat with my stuffed monkey attached to the hat with vel-cro. At some point I think I might have dislodged the monkey while jostling with my family trying to recreate the famous collision between Jack Tatum and Frenchy Fuqua on that fateful day in Pittsburgh. We are bound and determined to get to the bottom of the Immaculate Reception. In our reenactment, my father was playing the role of coach Noll (what a classy guy he was) standing on the sidelines. I was Frenchy and my brother-in-law was Mr. Tatum. I, for one, find it very strange that this most crucial play in the history of the sport lacks the definitive video footage when so many other insignificant plays had plenty of video angles and coverage. Has any missing film been recovered yet? I don't suppose there is any chance that some private citizen was standing near sidelines taking amateur video with a hand held camera as the play unfolded in front of them. I just can't imagine why there wasn't another cameraman shooting footage from another angle. Isn't it possible that there was a second shooter near the Classy Noll?

Anyway, as we were engaged in our mission to dispel the conspiracy of the Immaculate Reception, my stuffed monkey went missing. Now there are TWO intriguing mysteries to solve. Do you think you can check your lost and found for my monkey?

When I am visiting family in the summertime, I often select a stuffed animal toy to carry around as a joke to get a smile out of my young nephews. I have various elephants, cats, and other furry creatures. But this particular monkey was a special gift that I got from my sister at Christmas a few years ago. He has his arms raised high and looks like a referee signaling a touchdown or a converted field goal. I call him "Touchdown Jorge" and he was perfect for our trip to the Hall of Fame. This particular monkey was very special to me. When I met my sister's family for the day at your facility, I decided to wear "Touchdown Jorge" on my yellow hat to make my nephews laugh and make my sister proud. They were very happy to see him!

Like I said, I think he must have fallen off when I collided with my brother-in-law. I didn't even realize it when I was trying to deflect the crushing impact of my brother-in-law. I envision in my mind: Jorge caroming off my hat from the collision just like the football that bounced off of Jack Tatum (or Frenchy Fuqua, depending on who you believe). Of course, my nephew who was SUPPOSED to be Franco Harris just started laughing at the whole thing and he never did snatch Jorge off of his shoe tips and rush down the sideline past classy Chuck Noll. Apparently nobody else saw Jorge either and we simply walked off without him. I was very sad to later find him missing.

Please check your lost and found for him. I can come down to pick him up if you have him, but I wanted to write first to make sure that he was there before I stopped by. No sense driving all the way to Canton and back for nothing with the price of gasoline these days! Especially when I may have actually lost my monkey at the Amish Door Restaurant in Wooster, Ohio.

Do you get many foreign visitors to the Hall of Fame? I wonder how many of them show up expecting to see Pele or that British guy married to the Spice Girl or that 10 year old phenom kid from Africa but became a U.S. citizen. Why do they call soccer football? I wonder about that sometimes. Have you ever thought about changing the name of your institution to the Hall of Fame for **Beautiful American Style Football** just to avoid the confusion with the international tourists?

Exactly what are the criteria for joining the Hall of Fame anyway? I think we should keep out the 'soccer' football players and only allow American style football players in. Do you think this is unreasonable? I don't. Please help me find my monkey, Jorge!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rusty Lucas".

Rusty Lucas

p.s. Please send me a free Hall of Fame baseball cap if you have any that are free. I will take last year's model if you have any left over that you are trying to get rid of. I am not picky about having the most current design.