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# Baseball Camp

## Stone Chiropractic Center Baseball Camp says Goodbye and Thank You!

I would like to start this letter out with an enormous **THANK YOU** to everyone associated with our camp for the last 19 years; this includes our town, our sponsors, donators, participants, friends and well-wishers. It has been a wonderful experience to see over 950 children come thru our camp and take away the intended gifts of life building skills thru baseball. What started out as a 1 year hope experiment, turned into 19 years of a dream come true for me. I can't begin to explain to you the joy and sense of accomplishment I receive when a former camper comes up to me and says "thank you" and expresses how important our camp was to them. Since the inception of this camp, the main motivation was to be able to provide an avenue in which baseball would be the vehicle, to instill skills that could be transferred to everyday life; such as respect, building friendships, team work, improved self-esteem, self-worth and a greater appreciation of the people around you. I believe over the past 19 years we have met and surpassed these goals. This camp became something more than a camp to go to at the end of July at Deland Field, it became an event, that brought many people and business together, and I thank all who participated in order to make that happen.

In life as in baseball, sometimes you are thrown a curve ball. Recently, Tony Ferreira (Pro-Kids Baseball), my close friend and camp instructor called. He stated his duties and responsibilities, at IMG Baseball Academy, had increased greatly; time restraints and these increased responsibilities make it impossible for him to be available to instruct and lead our camp. We were both very disappointed that we couldn't end our journey with our 20 year milestone. Tony and I started this camp together and without him it would not be the same. He brought with him the professional baseball knowledge, skills and mind set along with an uncanny gift to teach and reach all of his students, no matter what their ability. I believe our camp was able to leave our participants with the tools and the desire to improve not only as athletes

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but as a people who understand the importance of work ethics and striving to become the best at what they do.

The Stone Chiropractic Center Baseball Camp may have come to an end, but the friendships and skill sets instilled in these children will live on forever. I thank you again for the opportunity and trust you have placed in us which has made this camp a wonderful success. I am positive that we will all meet again on the field of life and when we do, appreciate the memories created. From everyone at the Stone Chiropractic Center Baseball Camp Family, I say **THANK YOU** and wish you success.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mark Stone