

January, 1978

Dear Clarence & Ruth, and girls:

Greetings from Illinois in 1978, in fact here the month of January is already more than half gone.

Our holiday season was very special, in fact no one wanted to leave when the last day came. Barbara was home for almost three weeks, Paul was home for two full weeks, and that was very special, because he hadn't been home for a year. It was good to have him around. Dave and his girlfriend came on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Day we spent with Bob's family and on the 26<sup>th</sup> the Swanson side was at our house. On Tuesday we all went downtown Chicago to see and hear the "Nutcracker", and then out to dinner. On Wednesday, Ann had us for dinner at her apartment, and I don't know where Thursday and Friday went, but they disappeared, ~~but~~ doing lots of odds and ends.

New Year's Eve was departure day. Dave and his Anne went to Michigan to spend some time at her home. Our Ann went back to her apartment, and Bob and I and Mary took Paul back to Ashland, Wisconsin. We drove up Saturday and came back on Sunday. All went well, had some snow, but didn't have any real problems. It was just beautiful up there.

Barbara left on Monday, January 2, and we moved Mary to Michigan on Saturday, January 7. She took a teaching job in a small town near Kalamazoo. She and Ann had been up there apartment hunting a few days prior, and they found a real cute efficiency apartment, one nice room, kitchen and bath, lots of storage and closet space, so we gathered up some furniture and by means of a trailer moved her. It is a little more than a 3 hour drive. She needed a car, so we let her use the red one we had, and we had to get another one. So we had a lot of decisions to make, hopefully we made the right ones. She is doing fine, is a bit lonesome, but that will get better.

Last Sunday, the 15<sup>th</sup>, we went to Art & Lovina's 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. It was a real nice affair. I was happy for Art, as he had worked hard to make it a success and a surprise for Lovina, which she surely was. They had a very simple service in the church, and then an open house at the church, with a wedding cake, coffee, tea, punch, flowers, napkins with their names on, and it was a real party. After that there was a dinner at a local restaurant, and I think there must have been 40 or 50 there for that, so all in all it was a good day. Elsa went with us.

So you can see we have been busy. Bob has been traveling too. Last week spent 4 days in Louisville and this week is in Canada. He is feeling pretty well, usual aches and pains, but the kind you can live with. We have lucked out so far and haven't gotten the flu, even though there is some around.



Page 2

We have been having the typical winter weather. Gets down around zero, or below, and then it warms up and we get some more snow. We have been fortunate so far though some places have really gotten clobbered with snow, southern Illinois got about 18 inches the other day.

Take care, and let us hear from you when you have time. Hope you are all well and busy.

Love,

*Savaine*