

May 9, 1979

Dear Folks:

As a letter writer the last few months, I probably wouldn't get a very good grade. I don't know where time goes, but it sure does disappear.

Spring is here. It was a long, cold and snowy winter, but as usual we were much more fortunate than most people. We had good snow equipment and if Bob wasn't home, we have good neighbors, and they use the equipment, so we always got cleaned out. It doesn't seem possible now that we really had that much snow, and now we are most certainly enjoying the good weather again. Everything is so pretty, it seems that our grass is greener than ever, and the tulips are out and it won't take long for the roses and peonies and all the other pretty things.

Mary came home on April 3 and left again on the 23rd. It was a good homecoming for all of us. Because she was home, all of the rest of the family came home for a few days. Dave was with us from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> and Paul was with us from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>, and Barbara got home on weekends when she could, however it was a very busy time for her so she didn't have much time to spare.

Bob's brother-in-law was having heart surgery on the Thursday before Easter, so our usual Easter family get together had to take a different shape. Inasmuch as all of our family was home, we decided to have everyone at our house on the Saturday night before Palm Sunday. It was a good party, there were 27 of us, a house full. Paul thought it was a little more crowded than when they were all little. Everyone enjoyed it and it worked out fine. The surgery went fine and he got along well. We saw him this past Sunday and he has come a long way in three weeks.

Mary was fine, is learning a lot, and is having lots of new experiences, both good and bad. She got back safely and is back in the groove again with her classroom. She is getting as much of an education as they are.

Art called me on Saturday night, and sounded pretty down. Lovina wasn't very well, and they had just moved and I think it was all pretty overwhelming. We plan to get up there, but I am not sure when. Apparently Lovina's problems are a combination of her heart and diabetes, two very difficult problems. Helen has come home to give them help and moral support. They have a new address and phone no.

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They certainly need our prayers along with a card or note.

We haven't made any definite vacation plans for this year, but hopefully we will get out to California sometime during the year. We have mixed emotions about going to Jamaica. I would like to see where Mary is, but conditions there are difficult, so we will decide about that later. She hopes to get home again for Christmas, 1979.

Take care and lets us hear from you. Hello to all of your family for us.

*Serraine*