

May, 1980

Dear Folks:

Greetings from Illinois, I realize it has been a while since I have written, but I always get around to it eventually.

We splurged and celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary by taking a trip to Jamacia. Sort of decided on the spur of the moment and we made it. Left on Thursday before Easter and came back on Monday. We both have Good Friday off, so that way we only missed two days of work. It was a delightful trip. Ann came down on Friday and then she stayed with Mary the next week, as it was a vacation week for both of them. We spent two nights in Kingston, that is a large town and is where Mary lives. We saw part of that town and went out to the country where she teaches, met the lady that she lived with last year and part of each week this year. She was a beautiful Jamacian lady, had us to lunch. Then we spent two nights in Ocha Rios, which is a very resort area. So we saw the very poor and the very lush. It is a beautiful country, the land of sun and sea. Beautiful white sand beaches and blue sky, and oh so much poverty and political unrest. We rented a car and you drive on the left side of the road, but as usual Bob mastered that too. It was good for us to see where she has been as now we can understand so much better the situation.

She will be finished there on June 22 and is planning a 3 week trip to South America and if all goes well will back in the states around mid-July. Then she will be job hunting, probably in Michigan.

Barbara graduates next Sunday - May 18th. Might be a hard day for me, hard to give up my last one, but so thankful that she has been able to get a good education and will be doing work that she enjoy and whereby she can help people. She has a job at Burnham City Hospital in Champaign, has rented an apartment and will be starting there on June 2. She will be taking her State Boards in July.

Yesterday Bob and I went up, met Art & Lovina and took them out to dinner at a nice restaurant near Elkhorn. I called Art on Saturday night, to see if we could work something out. He made the reservations and it worked out fine. He hadn't told Lovina so she was surprised to see us. We had a good visit. She doesn't hear well, but she could understand a good deal of what I said. They manage quite well with a wheel chair and a walker, this place had a lift so there was no problem getting her up. Today they were going to go and she was to be fitted with a temporary leg, just to get used to one I guess. If she can stay reasonably well, I believe she will master this. She is an intelligent woman, and I don't think she is going to spend the rest of her life in a wheelchair.

Paul is still with us, still working in St. Charles. I.H. finally went back to work after a strike of 6 months. That was very hard on the company, the employees and lots of other people.

Take care, write when you have time, and hello to all for us.

Lorraine