

1952-09-29 (29 September 1952)	Post date:	Postmark:
From: Elsa Swanson	To: Ruth & Clarence	
From: Geneva, Illinois	To: Redwood City, California	
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Sept 29, 1952

Dear Ruth & Clarence,

We are very sorry to learn of your loss and we know he will be greatly missed by each one of you and by his many friends. It is always hard to lose a loved one even though we know that death is a natural thing but then isn't it comforting to know that our heavenly home is a much happier place where there is no sorrow or sighing?

I always marvelled at how Mr. Kjlilback could do so much travelling and take such an active interest in everything in spite of his heart condition. He seemed to enjoy life and people to the utmost. Another thing which I admired him for was his generosity. He seemed to enjoy giving gifts to all his friends. I never forget when he stopped here on the way home from Norway he bought gifts for all those Norway because he wanted them to have something from America. He was especially interested in making good buys [?] in material.

I phoned Klemms this morning. Mrs Klemm answered and she was shocked to learn the news. They are all well and I'm sure you will be hearing from them soon. I also called Lorraine this morning.

Bob, together with his father and brother have have gone into International Harvester Farm Implement business for themselves in Aurora. I suppose Lorraine either has or will write to you about it for they just took it over entirely yesterday. Since this has been Bob's line of work he knows a great deal about it but even so it will take time to get organized & adjusted. We hope his health keeps up. Bob should make good for he has the ambition, intelligence and personality necessary in business.

This last Sunday we all (including grandpa) rode out to Jesse & Mary Baker's home. This is the first time we have seen their new home and it truly is a lovely place. Mary was telling of all the work they had to put in to improve the surroundings on the farm. Their son Don intends to get married the 23rd of November. His father needs him & he wants to stay on the farm, so they are considering having a trailer home on their premises. The Bakers were so pleased that you visited them, Clarence, when you were here.

The Sunday before last the Carlsons & us drove up to Arts and they weren't home. We got there before 3 p.m. which is the time they close the station. We found out later that they had gone to Wennerstroms. Art has a man working full time for him now because he is so busy. Grandpa was with us that Sunday too. Lately he's been going with us wherever we go so he must be feeling better.

A couple weeks ago he walked over to his friends Mr. & Mrs. Linds, who live about 1/2 mile away from us. They were glad to see him, cooked coffee for him, and Mr. Linds

drove him home. Two days after we learned that Mr. Linds had died of an heart attack. He had been removing dried branches from some fruit trees that day. He was 77 years old. Grandpa attended his funeral with our neighbors.

We've had a cool spell but now it's hot again. It was 90 degrees Sunday which was a record for that day.

We have been contemplating on selling our house and buying a small farm which Carl could work on the side because its not easy to make the paychecks reach the way everything costs nowadays & it will be worse when the children start school. Its hard to get a good price for the house for real estate is at a standstill around here now.

We would like to know more of the details about your father, Ruth. Grandpa asks if he was at home or in a hospital. I know you won't feel like writing much yet so we'll just wait until you're able to do so.

I must have been sleeping very soundly when the phone rang. I couldn't figure it out - I thought it was an alarm clock at first. I didn't even turn on the light so I had no idea what time it was. I guess I must have sounded kind of dopey.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with you and we hope you all are well.

Love, Elsa