

1 June 11, 1971

Dear Mom + Margaret,

I've been trying to find time to write. We were sad to hear of Uncle Clint's death. How old was he? About 89, I think. I'm enclosing \$1.00 for the flowers – Are you sure that is enough? I know Mom will miss Uncle Clint – She'll have to get together with Uncle Vernon more.

It sounds like Toddville SS [Sunday School] and Church are doing well. We've been having good SS attendance (35-44) but the last two Sundays have been down because of different events at Schools. I had my second women's mtg. last week with six neighbor women. Jake's been speaking different places most every Sunday.

Yesterday the girls attended the funeral of one of Carol's classmates. She died of Encephalitis. It was a little different kind than Paul had but similar. She didn't have quite so much fever + sleepiness but swelling of the brain tissues – coma- and quick death. It really shook all of the kids and made them realize the brevity of life. This girl was a wonderful Christian – a twin. Carol dated her twin brother last year. We are

reminded again of God's goodness in (over)

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sparing Paul's life!

We had a wedding last week, too.

Kelly Toth, a short-term F.M. Missionary and the 5th grade teacher from the kid's school. It was a simple but beautiful wedding.

Graduation is June 18th. Next week the kids will have final exams. Last week-end the High-School classes had their excursions. Carol's class were gone Friday + Sat. to a beach on the Ise Peninsula. She can home with a sun-burn but had a wonderful time. She and Wayne have become inseperables. [sic] They will really miss each other when school is out but plan to write every day and he has persuaded his folks to come to Nojiri for their vacation in August. He's really a nice kid but I wish that they were older. He is Swedish and 6 ft. 3 in. tall. Their home in the States is in New Jersey. (How much further away can you get!) Ruthie keeps busy with swimming + slumber parties etc. She has started sewing now so both girls keep the sewing

machine buzzing.

We haven't heard from any of the boys for several weeks. John didn't get to leave Viet Nam when he expected but moved to a new out-fit. He was

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sick awhile with a kidney infection but was better last time he wrote. He will return to U.S about June 15 and get out of the Army the end of June.

Mark got a job ~~writ~~ right after he got back from that trip. He is working at a lumber mill. He makes about #3.59 per hr. Getting the job was really an answer to prayer. He had applied there about 5 months earlier but every-time he went in he was told "We aren't hiring any-one." After getting back from from [sic] their trip Mark decided to check once more. After he left the house Paul Hastings said to his wife "I feel like if Mark doesn't get a job today he's going to be discouraged. Let's pray that he will get a job." They called Mark's S.S. teacher and the three of them prayed. Mark enquired at the office if they were hiring anyone and

they told him “No, we haven’t hired anyone for months, theres [sic] no jobs available.” Mark turned to leave and then the office lady said “Say are you the boy that stays with Paul and Hazle [sic] Hastings? When Mark said “yes” She said “Come
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into the office a minute – the manager wants to talk to you.” The manager interviewed him + told him to get a physical + report to work that night!

Paul is probably in his last week of training – He hasn’t written for awhile so we are wondering if he just won’t fly over here + surprise us! We don’t know yet where he’ll be stationed next.

The rainy season has started here – at least it keeps it a little cooler but some days are quite hot.

Yesterday four of our missionaries from the Phillipines [sic] were in Tokyo. Jake wasn’t home so I had to take the train down town to meet them + help them shop a little + get some money exchanged etc. It was nice to see them but I’m not user to getting around in Tokyo or taking care of

business matters so it tired me out.

Did you give up going to Alaska,
Mom? How about Martin? We're sure
getting anxious to see you all – just
one more year now! Will you get
to see Jrs [sic] this summer? Phyllis' canoe
trip sounds interesting! Margaret, we
don't need any of your cats – one is enuff. [sic]
Ours is so spoiled. He won't eat left overs
only dried [sic] fish. Write soon. Love,

Florence + All