

#1

Mom died - 1985
in April

1-3-88

Dear Family :-

I've been concerned
for several months now
about our families

drifting farther apart
since Mom died. Some
we haven't seen since
her funeral which will
be 3 yrs. in April. I've
talked to Sis and Jan
and they like the idea
of a Round Robin.

Letter passing from
one to the other until
it completes its circle
and then it begins
response

- 2 -

a second round. Some families keep them going for 40-50 yrs.

I think to keep us from getting mixed up - I'll send to Frank, Frank to Jack, Jack to Jim, Jim to Marty, Marty to Elaine, Elaine to Joe and Joe to Sis and Sis to me. If anyone does not want to participate for any reason I would ask that you send the letters ~~one~~ to the next one. If anybody doesn't add their news note we will know they want

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to be shipped next
time around. Also
please send the letters
on within 2 weeks

We should each receive
a news packet 2-3
times a year.

If anyone wants to
add ideas - feel free.
Also, pictures, or articles.

Our own immediate
families are getting so
big there's even less time
for siblings. Please
~~comment~~ in your replies.

Maybe to get started
we could list our
married & single children
and their children's names

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and ages. After that
we can just add
changes - marriages,
divorces, babies, etc.

1. Mike - Tam - Joshua 5, Tim 18 mths.
2. Joe - Pat - Stephen Brad 6
Aimee - 9 months.
3. Chuck - Rita - Ryan 2, Ashley 9 mths.
4. Tom - Single -
5. Jimi - Divorced from Mary - Sara 3.
6. Rob - Gill
7. Ron - Sherri - Danielle - 2 mths.
8. Andy - Single - Age 22

The holidays are
over and we're all
dreading going back to
work tomorrow. I will!

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have a very busy month with employee records and W-2s to get ready in addition to the regular workload. Also, Jean's sister Helen and I signed up for a aerobics + exercise class for 10 wks. Its got to do some good.

Some thing to keep in mind for Marty and Elaine - Joe + Jackie will be in Florida for 4 mths? (thru April) and Elaine + Chuck usually return from Arizona in May? I dont know where our letter will be then

-6-

but keep it in mind
if you are mailing them

~~Write:-~~

Don't keep the
other letters.
Attach yours
and send
them all on.
Next time
remove the
letters you wrote
last time.

Love to all
49 of us

Jan

I believe Chris + Mindy's
baby will make 80.

~~PS:~~ Also, my brothers - Don't
make your wives do the
writing. I know all of
you learned to write -
How about some from
each of you.

1-8-88

Dear Family,

Received Jan's letter and I also think this is a good idea, although I want you to know that this will be no small effort on my part - since I left work and all the paper work that was involved I don't really care much about any paper work.

We have been pretty busy for several months now, with Mike's operations and check ups - Betty's folks also have been having a lot of problems, her Dad burned his leg quite badly last spring in a grass fire, doctoring for that lasted well into the Summer then her mother has had heart

2
problems, we had her in Saginaw
St. Mary's for a valve replaced
at the end of the year, but as of
now all seems to be going quite
well Thank God.

Hope you all had a nice
holidays. it was quite dead
around here, none of the kids got
up until after new years so they
could have canceled the whole
thing as far as I'm concerned I
like to have the little ones around
at Christmas time.

Vicki & Dave & Lora are in
ariz. till about the middle of Mar.
the other boys are doing pretty well.
Dave has gotten himself back
on track since the divorce with
a good job at Mich. bolt co.
I hope it keeps going well for
him, Christie would like to be with
Dave steady but its out of the question

3

right now, she don't want to be with her mother, she enjoys so much getting up here and feeding the deer & turkeys in the back yard and we just love having her hear.

Mike and I have been busy lately trying to get his 1st set of wheels ready for the open road. 1980 Monza, he is 16 now and ready to go. Pray for him and everyone else on the highway, his track record has not been very good to this point.

Jan this is pretty good. I see why you started it out - by the time all this stuff gets back to sis it's going to cost her \$4.00 in postage and a suit case to get it back to you, ho. ho.

Jan, you will have to by-pass
Joe + Jackie this time around
(I guess Cakes mixed up you guys)

Well, lets see - about the kids:
Vicki + Dave + Sara 6
Wayne - single - David - ~~divorced~~ -
Crystal 3 - Richard - single -
Kevin - single - Mike - single - 11th grade.

I to think this is a great
idea. Hope & pray this little
finds each & everyone well.

Take care all & keep the
littles moving.

Betty & Frank + Mike

P.S. Elaine - Chuck, Joe + Jackie
the weather is beautiful here
& on below wish you were
here.

Jan 15, 1988

Dear Family:

all is quiet up here in the north. The weather has been very very cold as you all know.

Everyone is gone doing their own thing as I am now.

Jan this Round Robin letter idea is a real barn burner.

Last Christmas the call went out for reprints of the farm house, barn cows, dogs, family members etc. Only Jan replied to this request so far.

We expect 1988 to be a exciting year. Theresa will graduate from college here and go on to higher learning. Todd will begin his second year. And of course Debra will start junior high this fall.

The first thing we know the nest will again be empty.

2- We will God willing go on our second honeymoon this fall.

The law suit is expected to be settled this summer. This hopefully will unload a heavy burden.

Bessers are riding high in sales. They have increased there sales from 26 million to 46 million in five years. There is no reason that every business can not do the same.

Our children are as follows.

Theresa age 20 single

Todd age 18 single

Debra age 11 single

I am hopeful that only good things happen to each and everyone of us in 1988.

Lets not forget to count our blessings.

Jim it will be up to you to carry on this letter.

With love to all the family.

John Pat & Family



Dem's Pictures

Jan 30, 1988

Dear Family,

I enjoyed receiving, Jan's, Frank's, and John's letters and am happy to join the round robin circle. I hope you all enjoy it as well.

We are all healthy at this time. I had a problem with a broken blood vessel in my nose Jan. 17th. after two trips to the emergency room at the hospital I think I am ok now. They cauterized it twice and it has held for 11 days now.

Carolyn and I are still teaching in Hazel Park. She teaches the Developmental Kindergarten for the district and I am still at the High School. I just finished 25 years there.

I am still president of the teachers

again. I have just been reelected to my fifth term (in the easiest way - unopposed)

I am still involved with the St. Vincent de Paul work. I have been president of the Guardian Angels Conference for about 10 years. I was able to avoid election as president of the Oakland County District last fall. That may come in three years.

We were able to get Carolyn's mom into Autumn Woods at Thanksgiving time. We are thrilled since the care there is so superior to the care she was getting earlier.

Mark is going to Ferris State at Big Rapids this year. He seems to really enjoy it and is getting involved.

Karen is in her second year at Michigan State. She is doing fine.

Brian and Jeff are going to Bishop Foley High School and are doing great. Brian is in the eleventh grade and Jeff is in the ninth grade. We are just broke from tuition payments.

The rundown on our kids is short and sweet.

Mark - single - age 21

Karen - single - age 19

Brian - single - age 16

Jeff - single - age 14

I have located a few pictures of Mom, Dad, and family members. Some are in bad shape but if you wish copies I will try to get them made. If anyone has pictures that you think we may like, you may wish to put them together and make

a copy to include in the letter.

With the snow coming down I
am Envious of Joe & Jackie, also Chuck
and Elaine, It sure must be nice down
there.

I will quit rambling and wish
all of you the best. God bless you

Your loving brother

Jim

Dear Family,

February 18, 1988

Jan gave me two weeks to respond but I am setting at the word processor and feel like writing so here goes. Sonda is still working for the doctor in Saginaw, and they have lost a third son to congenital heart condition in the fall. There remaining two sons spent about a month in Ford Hospital undergoing extensive testing and having open heart surgery to have defibrillators put in. Things seem to be getting back to a normal schedule but we never know from one day to the next. One boy has ended up in the hospital twice since the 1st of December. It has been a very stressful six months.

I am still at Farm Bureau, but am thinking of going on my own, as the company is going through some corporate in fighting and the spin off of the front office makes for doubt about the future.

Dana, who will be 19 on March 10 is going to Saginaw Valley State University and pulled a 4 point on her first report card. She is on the pom-pon squad and is also working as a secretary in the Vice-Presidents office. They have an exchange program going with several country's and she sure would love to go to Austria in the fall for first semester but who know if that will take place or not. Alot can happen in six months. She is working towards a pre-med.

Shari will be 17 on February 26, and is a junior at Freeland High School and is a member of the Pom-pon squad.

Jan, its great to hear that you are in aerobics. Keep up the good work. Frank, I know what you are going through with Mike's operation and check ups. It seems like it never ends. Do you have enough snow yet? I am ready for spring.

Jack, it is good to hear that Theresa and Todd are doing well in college. Tell them to keep up the good work. Jim, it seems like you never let up. Why, don't you spread some of that work load on someone else and take a break? If you don't, you will be getting sick and then Carolyn will end taking care of you. She doesn't need any more work. We were glad to see Mark. If I remember right, he is studying commupications at Ferris and maybe we will see him on TV someday on the 6 oclock news.

I guess I should tell Elaine and Chuck that it is so cold up here that the well diggers can't bore through it. Thats cold. I sure wish I was old enough to retire. I would be in Arizona running for governor. Ha ha ha. Guess I better go.

Love,

Sonda, Marty, Dana and
Shari.

*Sonda, Marty, Dana
& Shari*

2/23/88

Dear Brothers, Sisters & Families:

What a nice idea! This is different from Christmas cards. More personal for me.

Chuck and I don't have much to report, he smashed his big toe and the next one, on Black Monday, Oct. 19 but seems to be doing O.K. now. The feet are "critical" for diabetics.

We are not sorry we decided to come to Sun Lakes. The people are moving here in droves. Maybe our next move will be on the Moon!!

However we must face the fact that we have to give up our Michigan home some year soon, it pains me to say. We aren't conditioned for these kind of big foot temps!

Must get this on its' way
So it can get back to Mich.
before too long.

God Bless and keep each
and every one of

Sincerely,
Glenn & Chuck

Sebring FL

3-1-88

Hello to You All.

It was a real pleasure to receive your letters, and I am glad to respond. Jackie and I are about half way thru our Florida assignment. We expect to be back home about April 25th.

I am working on an accelerated soil survey project in Glades Co. to the south of here, about 1 hour drive. Most of our work is on a very large ranch that specializes in raising cattle and pine trees. The whole area is nearly flat and wet sandy soils.

We are using our stay to make visits all around FL. We have been to Mobile Alabama and plan a cruise to ~~the~~ Nassau.

Doty and Joe will be visiting yet this month and we may go to Phoenix Arizona for Mike's graduation from Automotive School in early April.

I am planning on retiring in the fall or early winter so that we are better able to travel as we like and can.

Jackie lost her uncle Harry and her Father in death. Both in 4 days last fall. Joe recently had a very close call, he had lost control of his car on the ice and got

skidded in snow on the road shoulder.
He heard other cars coming over the hill
and decided to get into the car for safety.
Within 5 seconds his car was totalled and
he was knocked unconscious under the dash
on the passenger side. Some glass cuts
and a headache was all that resulted.
The second car lost control on the same
icy patch. A neighbor witnessed the whole
thing and took him to emergency care.

Tim 29, married to Deb, have Wanda and Tyler.

Steve 29, unmarried, has son Christopher.

Yvonne 26, recently divorced, has son Craig.

Ken 25, unmarried, newly licenced Cosmetologist.

Dennis 24, to be married to Dennis in July. Still
going to college.

Kathy 21, still in college.

Nicholl 20, about to graduate from Tech school.

Ronald 20, married to Rhonda last year.

Joseph A, will graduate from HS and start in
electronic tech school in June.

We will say more about the pictures next
writing after we get a chance to look over ours
again.

May God bless and keep you all forever.

Joe and Jackie



3-5-88

Dear Family,

It was so nice to read all the letters and hear what everyone is up to.

Rog has retired from G.M. on a early retirement plan and is working on his horses and serving God with his time these days. Im still busy in the Beauty Shop and I dont plan to retire in the near future.

Our Family is as follows

Miami	Roger	36	Ann	Joseph	8	Benjamin	3	Auben	18 mo.
Home	Jim	35	Single						
Home	Michelle	34	Single						
Capac	Bill	32	Chiyoko	Dawn + Darlene	10	David	8.		
Lapeer	Jan	27	Robert Lilla	Joshua	9	Jonah	7.		
Hawaii	John	27	Gayle	Lisa	8	Jessica	5		
	Christopher	26	Mindy	Christopher	Amil	1 mo.			

up stairs apartment.

May God bless all of you. we love you and hope to see more of you.

Sis, Rog
+ all

"Come and hear, all ye that fear God,
and I will declare what He hath done for my soul."

Psalms 66:16

Round Robin #2

May 5, 1988

Dear Family:-

Thanks to all of you for your quick response to our family letter. It went around in just over 2 months. I've held on to it longer this time because I think we will get tired of it if they come too fast and secondly because I had an idea to have some pictures copied. That hasn't worked out yet so I'll just include a copy of the survivor's letter this time.

Some letters were very short. Some held surprises. For me I didn't know about Steve's (Joe's) son Christopher.

There are no expected

-2-

grandchildren that I know
about at this writing.

Joe + Pat have started
their new house a couple
of blocks west of us.

Mike bought a Snap-On
Tool route in January.
He's working long hours but
things are going good.

We bought a 86 Olds
a few weeks ago. I liked
my 80 Chev but it was
getting old.

My aerobic class is over.
I'm not sure it did much
good but I did see
Helen twice a week.

Jeans Mom went into
the hospital a few weeks
ago - (to get her sugar level
adjusted). While there she
fell out of bed on her
forehead. She had a large
bump and 2 black eyes

Also, a good part of her face & neck turned blue. We got her out of there after a few days. After she was home a few weeks she got a blood clot in her groin. They operated to remove that. They are back at 76ers now. Jean's Dad had a cornea implant a week ago. When that's healed - he will have a cataract operation on the other eye. There's never a dull moment.

Our little Danielle has been in the hospital twice in her 6 months of life. She has a bronchitis - pneumonia type condition. I wonder if some day they will decide she is allergic to something.

-4-

Joe + Jackie probably are
back in Michigan by now.

Elaine + Chuck should be
by the end of this month.

Jean + I are thinking
of going to California for
a few days in October. They
are cooping us to make plans.

Until next time -

Happy Spring to all.

Love,

Jan + Jean

May 22

Dear Brothers & Sisters

I got the letter pack about a week ago so I guess its time I done some writing and move it on, I was very surprised on how enjoyable it is to get this much information at one time. (thanks for ^{Good Idea}) it almost seems like we are all together sitting around a table talking.

I have been wondering how would be the best way to ~~top~~ respond to all these letters for me so I think I will read them and answer accordingly starting at the top.

Elaine ^{chuck} its great to hear that you and Chuck are happy in Sun Lakes, I wish we could have made connections when we were in Arizona, what was Chuck doing to hit his toe?

2.

I hope we can make connections
this summer some time.

Joe & Jockie, - glad to hear that you
got back to Mich. safe & sound, I sure
hope you guys don't get stuck with
that kind of project again in Fla. that's
Florida for those of you who can't read
my scratching, it sounds like you
folks had a wonderful time.

Sis & Roger, -

Not to much news from you girl,
was glad to hear Rog is retired hope
he feels the same and is not getting
to tired slinging hash behind those
horses, now maybe you guys will
get a chance to be world travelers
more often.

Jan & Jean, -

Sorry to hear about the problems
you guys are having, it sounds like
up here, we have been doing

a lot of running also with Bettys
 folks - Petoskey - Saginaw etc., Bettys
 cousin Joe just around the corner from
 us ^{here}, passed away about a month ago
 Joe & Marion for those of you that knew
 them 58 yrs. old, he was Will Lovelace's
 son - massive heart attack we think.

Thanks for the Ell Eye Jan it sure
 hits the nail on the head in a lot
 of cases don't it, Betty is making
 a copy of it.

John & Pat. -

We have ~~not~~ had any close contact
 lately so hope everything is turning
 up for you guys by now, I am
 sending along some information that
 was in the Herald just lately I
 don't know if you get it or not its
 on oil drilling in the Co.

We don't have any pictures that you
 request, it seems like there should
 be some around someplace.

I have been going that way about 1 or 2 times a week to Dr. Bracken (chiropractor) my back is in terrible shape from a couple of bad discs, I just got it pretty well straightened out about 2 wks. ago and then I decided to pull a small pine tree out by hand and there it goes again it takes so much time to go get a shovel you know, I've been doing that for the last 35 yrs. that's why I'm in the shape I'm in.

Jim + Carolyn

Sorry to hear about your nose, I hope things are better by now, I have had few things done lately myself sigmoidoscopy - colonoscopy, upper & lower GI some hemorrhoids repaired and I still got a sore bottom spot if you know what I mean, this one Dr. up here I think he is a vet. in disguise.

Jim we would like pictures no. 1-2-4-5-6-+7 hope you have some names to go along with them I don't know some of these people.

We are taking some flowers out to mom + Dads grove this wk. and spruce it up a little bit before Memorial wk. end.

Mrs. French talked to us before Xmas to get your address and she mentioned that the rambling rose out there she planted at Moms request and somebody has been hacking it down, maybe that someone is me I don't know but the only thing I have done is prune off dead runners - possibly its the guy mowing the cemetery, thats one reason they don't like live flowers out there if they are out in thier way they just run over them.

Marty & Soncla.

Nice to hear from you it seems like we are so close as far as distance but yet so far away as far as time is concerned, maybe that will change in a yr. or so.

I didn't think we had all that bad of a winter as far as snow is concerned only a couple of storms that you could really call snow storms, my tractor got a dead battery waiting to be used.

So the deer a beginning to have their fawns now its quite quiet around here, I got my permit and I got my turkey 15 lbs small but the good eating size they say. Our grand daughter Christy told me on the phone "I sure hope you keep it till I can get up there Grandpa because I like turkey to."

Love and God Bless you and yours
Frank, Betty & Mike

Dear Family.

6-12-88

We received a bundle of letters a short time ago from Frank. The pictures inclosed brought back many childhood memories. Wouldn't it be nice if we could coil hay, milk cows, chop wood etc if only for one day. The pictures are wonderful Jim I certainly would like a duplicate of all of them. There had to be hundreds taken in that period of time. I received one picture of one of the cows, one of my 55 ford and one graduation plus lots of used drugs.

We will be leaving on our honeymoon on either August 20th or Sept 17th. Babysitting and college is now or will enter into this decision.

I have ben trying to lease out the farm for exploration but so far have failed.

2-
So many of the family has retired
or are dreaming of same. We are
entering into a new phase of our
lives. More sleep, sex and leisure
never hurt anyone. Caution it can
cause a weight gain.

Except for a nerve in my right arm
& feel good. The rest of the family seems
to be good healthwise.

Theresa and Todd has gotten summer
jobs starting June 13th.

The contamination lawsuit is just
now getting a ~~out~~ court hearing.

at this time of the proceedings. Both
the judge & lawyers feel we suffered
no mental anguish, little property loss
or damage. The contaminated water
we drank ~~we drank~~ for eight months
was really warmed over pepsi.

Life can be so cruel at times but
over a period of time everything will
even out.

3.

The weather up here is down right nice in the 70s & 80s.

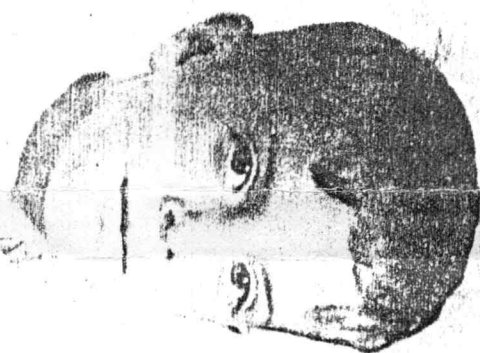
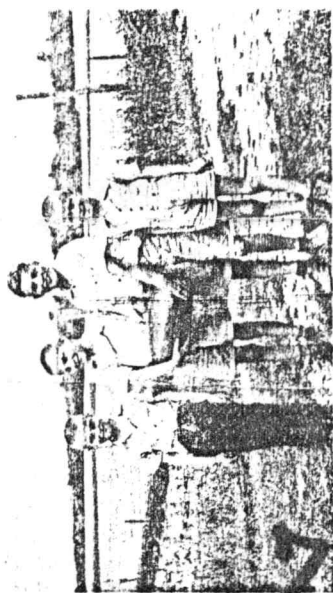
I worked the last two Saturdays but I am not excited about Saturday toiling in any shop. As of Friday I had 29 years in Bessers.

This is the first year in many that I haven't gone fishing. Falling off the ladder certainly helped make that decision. Old age is creeping up on me to.

I found the latest letter supply most interesting. Like Frank noted it is like everyone is at a great big table discussing there hopes & dreams.

If we all can keep up the good work letters writing and police work on these lost pictures every thing will work out. With lots of love and understanding I will have to sign off.

John Pat & Family



Jim's Pictures

July 19, 1988

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I received the letters a while back so I better get my bins in gear and send them on. (Jan told me that) I enjoyed all the letters. Marty, your letter was missing but Jan had made a copy of it so she read it to me.

It appears that we are all experiencing the aches and pains associated with age and I am sure that it will continue. I believe that we, as a family, have been blessed. When Marty turns 50 on Aug. 6th, we will reach a milestone. We will have survived 50 years together and have all been blessed with spouses who share this good life and survival with us.

I was happy to hear that Roger joined the retired group and that Joe is planning to join soon. The rest of us are looking forward to the day we can join also. I am sure we are preparing for it. (AARP wants me to join).

We are all in good health at this time except Karen. She is having surgery on both feet to remove the bunions and straighten her big toes. This is the result of the arthritis. She will be in the hospital for two days and then be non-weight bearing for three or four weeks. Hopefully she will be mobile by school time.

Carolyn's aunt and godmother (Aunt Angie) passed away just over two weeks ago. She was 91 and stayed in her own house right up to the end.

aunt Helen has M.S. and cancer and is in very bad shape. It is just a matter of time and it would be a blessing for God to take her home. She is around 71.

The summer is nearly half over and I am trying to finish a few projects. I want to paint the house in Hazel Park so I am getting it ready now.

Carolyn and I will be returning to Hazel Park teaching this fall. Mark will be returning to Ferris State Univ. He will be a residence assistant this year. Karen will be returning to M.S.U. again. She will be living off campus. She has been accepted into the School of Engineering. Brian will be a senior this year at Bishop Foley High. He got a score of 32 on his ACT test last spring. That was better than 99% of all students ^{in Math & Science.} nationwide taking test. He hopes to take aeronautical engineering at the Univ. of Michigan and take R.O.T.C. Jeff will be a sophomore at Foley this fall. He was on the track team and did well in school last year.

Well I better call this good for now. God bless all of you.

Your loving brother
Jim.

P.S. only John & Frank requested pictures. I will hold off to see if others want them since it is quite expensive to get them reproduced.

8-1-88

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Wow, it was great to get all those letters all at once. Since we are almost all over 50 or will be when this is read, I will use large print so you won't have to get your bi-focals out.

Elaine and Chuck, we hope to get up there before you head back for the south west. I hope you are all OK.

Joe, did you get to see many gators down there, or were you working up on high ground? We get to Panama City every Easter but its a long ways from where you were. I hope you are enjoying your summer and I envy you getting ready to retire. I can't wait.

Also, Roger, are you able to keep busy since you retired? It has been so long since I have been down there. I guess I am going to have to skip work some day and just run down there.

Jan and Jean, you two sure are busy. I would love to take a trip to California. Do you need anyone to carry your bags?

Frank and Betty, are you getting ready for winter yet? Just think, in 90 days the snow will fly.

We will get up there some time in the next year, I promise.

Jack and Pat, by now you have probably gone on your second honeymoon. How was it? I would like to go to Toronto for a weekend and just relax, but I doubt much if you could relax going there.

Jim and Carolyn, where have you been hiding? It has been a year and we miss you. Guess we have to do it up right and have a blow out.

Thanks all for all the latest info.

Love, Sonda, Marty, Dana and Shari

9/12/88

Dear Families:

Time is coming to a close for our stay in Mich. We didn't do anything about a 2nd car or selling the place. I know we won't be driving back, Chuck has spoken!

I'm sorry about not seeing you and yours Jim and only talking to you Jack from Uncle Leo's. Hope to talk to Jim's about Karen's foot surgery, sure learn ^{lots} something and get some great insights as to what you are all doing, keep them coming!

I must write about retirement and lots of IFS. If your health is not good, if you have something to ^{TAK} take up or do - don't jump into it, another plateau in the everyday world. Life goes on hopefully!



Chuck has really had skin problems this summer, diabetics are prone to so many things. We think we have it controled and it flairs up. I'm pretty good for the shape I'm in but whata shape!! I'll be 69 my next birthday which will put me in my 70th year how about that. Our Dad waited for that birthday.

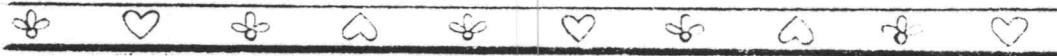
It's so good to read how many are in college and I'm praying for all of you it seems more than ever if you aren't trained, really your "lot in life" will be rougher. But whatever we do we have to try to do WELL. I'm on such a SOAP Box this A.M.

God bless and keep each and

everyone



Love, Elaine
and Charles



6244 Avon Lane
Cadillac, MI.

10/3/88

Dear Family:

As of last Friday, we are retired. We have moved into another ~~home~~ home just off M55, east of Cadillac. We have Kathy at CMU and Joe at ITI in Grand Rapids - none at home just now.

We are going through the trauma of making this house our home. Nothing seems to be as we would like it - but we are using it to bridge the retirement shock.

We visited Chuck and Elaine last evening and pray that their trials will be bearable.

Dineise was married in July and is living in Madison Heights. Her husband Dennis works for NBD and she works at Hudsons.

Yvonne, Steve, Ken and Dan work at 4 Wings Boat Co. here in Cadillac. Mike works at Godfrey Chevrolet here.

2 Mary we are still planning to return to Hawaii - Waii sometime this winter, and will contact Johnny and his family. I know Roger will use his time well.

Talked to Jan a little last evening. Hope Jan can find a way to retire in peace. It sounds like you have your hands full as a family.

Frank and Betty. I couldn't believe you would ever write such a long letter, but it was good. Frank you sound like you and yours are keeping the medics busy. I hope that is about done.

When Betty came back from Mexico in June of '87 she came down with Hepatitis and was on intravenous feeding for 12 days - would you believe we haven't got the final bill yet from the Hospital. We keep hearing that it is coming. We all are helping the medics in our own way.

John, you can roll hay and milk cows, I had enough. I would like to watch you this time around.

As for well drilling - the only game in town is deep wells for gas and most of them are south of this area. We have one being drilled about 3 miles south of here now.

There is some activity in Oceana Co. with a project to clean up some poison gas from several wells there so that it can be used. There are seismic crews active in many areas.

How was the Honeymoon? John I just retired from 37 yrs + 5 mo, with dear Uncle Sam. - work a few more years. OK.

Jim - AARP wants every one to join. Chuck & Elise can tell you a bit about their medical club. We belong and found it was helpful during our Florida travels.

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We hope Karen is all healed and well shod again. How is her MSU activity? Also Mark at Fern? Denise is near you now and she could use a family type visit now and then.

Martin, we did see lots of gators and some crocodiles, but mostly at Bush Gardens - near Tampa. Hammock State Park near Sebring, had a few in April but thru the winter they are all holed up as in hibernation. I was working in low wet areas most of the time but saw mostly migratory water fowl and birds. Some wild hogs and cattle.

We are scheduled to take a trip to North Carolina this month and will tell you about it next letter.

We wish you all a blessed and peaceful next few months.

One of Mom's 1st. cousins, Mary Rose Vodeboucoeur, tried to contact me recently but without success. She lives near here.

Love Joe and Jackie

Oct. 12, 1988

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

This letter packet has been on the road since last May so I'll get it ready and out of here without delay.

Rog has been retired from G.M. since last March, but not retired from the horses. His plan is to sell them off as soon as possible with the exception of five or six choice ones. It is such a drain to have so many. Rog is recovering from a hernia repair & ~~syst~~ operation this week. He is doing very well and will be up and at it soon.

Young Rog got out of the Army last Christmas and has his own tiling co. in Miami, Florida. He & Ann & the three boys are doing very well. They plan to come home for Christmas this year. We (Rog, I & Michelle) visited them in Florida last March.

Jim & Chris are attending college full time. Jim is taking drafting & Chris accounting & business. They drive to Flint every day. Little Chris is a wonderful baby at 8 mo. he is walking around every thing. Mindy works at Big Wheel part time.

John & Laver are both in college at Hilo University in Hawaii. When they come home they will be teachers. The girls Lisa & Jessy are doing fine in school, but are anxious to come

Back to Michigan. The girls are in a drama class and I understand they are very good. Michelle still works at G.O. three days a week. She enjoys the work and also the social functions they put on for them on a regular basis.

Bill still works for G.T.F. and Chiyoko is working for G.M. She expects to get laid-off soon and will be working part time as an interpreter for the Japanese Co that's coming to Inlay City. She has been doing that along with her G.M. job. The girls will soon be 11 yrs old. Dawn was sent to Port Huron as the top speller in Capoe schools. Darlene was tops in her Class but didn't practice enough to go higher. David is quite a young man at 9 yrs old.

Jan still lives in her lovely home in Lapeer. Robert has worked in construction since he got out of the Army 2½ yrs ago. Robert had a cyst removed today, so he is on the recovery list along with Rog. The boys are growing so tall & handsome. Joshua is 10 & Jonah is 7.

I hope I got everyone of my bunch.

I've been working in the Beauty Shop and baby sitting for Bills until Chuyoko get laid-off which I understand will be this Friday. I've also been taking some College Courses which come over the tele-vision at Sacred Heart, still teach C.C.D.. Have done that since 1970. Rog + I have been visiting Hospitals + Sun Crest once a week as an evangelizing effort. We only pass this way once.

Well Family I can't tell you how much I enjoyed all your letters. I too feel like we were all around the table talking to each other. Who would have believed that our close family would only see each other on such rare occasions. I pray our mansions will be close and we can see each other for ever. Hear Mom + Dad. Love to all of you and your wonderful families.
Sis + Rog

Round Robin #3

Nov. 7, 1988

Dear Brothers + Sisters:

It's time to get the letter package rolling again. Maybe 2 or 3 more can get it before Christmas. I've enclosed one copy for each of you of some of the pictures I have. If some of you want a particular one, I'll see what I can do.

The article on brother and sister relationships (as adults) is quite interesting, I think. I don't know of any feuding among us but I thought you all might enjoy reading it.

Jimi - I agree that we are blessed that all eight of us and our spouses are 50+, alive and looking for many more good years.

Our medical update. - Some of you know Jess' Dad swallowed a peach pit here in August. We had the EMS unit here twice. Finally it went down. 5 weeks later he

began having stomach pain, etc. He had emergency surgery one Sunday. The pit had lodged in his small intestine and had gotten all infected. He had a 8-9" incision. They didn't remove the pit because they didn't want to cut into his intestine. They worked it down to the large intestine where it should proceed out. We still don't know if its gone or still part of him. What a deal.

Danielle (Ron + Sherrie's) baby was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis in June. She has a life expectancy of 25 now but this could improve with time and research. Its a long story. She is so precious. The prettiest blue eyes and smile.

We decided to build a new garage at the old house before we sell it. Its up and shingled but not sided. We thought we better do the cosmetic improvements before we give up control or we might have to look at that old garage forever.

When we finish that and do some work inside, we plan to sell it.

We plan to use the proceeds to build 1 or 2 small homes per year to take the place of Jean's shop job. He wants to retire from there.

We are looking for lots to get that project off the ground. I expect by April - he will be retiring from the shop. I plan to work at my job for 8-9 more years.

It's 9:00 a night and none of our guys have had supper. They went over to Joe's right after work to work on his kitchen counter tops. They had to move out of the other house a couple of weeks ago. They are staying at her folks until the house is done.

Yes, you guys, I agree, these letters have been most enjoyable. More than I had hoped for. It's so sad when families grow up and apart for a lifetime sometimes. Communication will keep that from

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happening to this family.

Tomorrow is election day. I hope all of you plan to vote. Something about politics made me think of Mom. She was very angry with something Eleanor Roosevelt said or did and she wrote her a letter. (Late 1930's or early 40's) I don't know what the issue was but she signed her name to let Eleanor know she was

M A D
(Mrs. Anil Dumort).

God love her. We all thought she was a saint but I guess she had some things to be sorry for as we all do.

Take care all of you - Enjoy the holiday in the spirit they were meant for.

Love,
Jan + Jean

12-5-88

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

Its letter writing time again so here I go, I was waiting until after deer season to add my tails of the big hunt, it was not a good season weather wise - warm rainy and high winds I don't think the deer were hurt very bad in this area at least, a nice 8 pt. came running in on the ridge over from me and stopped as he walked I noticed that he was limping so I watched for some kind of clearing it was quite brushy. I know that I hit him pretty hard but he ran off toward the house - after a few minutes I went over to where he had been and here comes 4 guys through they said one of them had hit the deer about a half mile west of here so like a dummy I told them they could come on in and track it, they went less than a 100 yds. and it was down or couldn't move much it didn't take them long to clean it and get out of here, that was the only shooting I got.

We have been pretty busy lately with xmas shopping etc., yesterday we had to run Bettys Dad to the Hosp. in Alpena for xrays. he flipped his 4 wheeler a couple of days

ago while we were in Escado shopping and he was getting more sore each day so we thought we better get him checked out - 2 broken ribs and some bruises, he don't seem to bounce off the ground at 81 like he used to, Mother was in the Hosp. a short time ago for a few days, she got a flu like condition and it got her sugar all out of whack.

We just joined AARP a month ago and took their Hosp. Ins., it would certainly help out I guess if we had the misfortune.

What a beautiful day it is today - in the 40s sunny and bright, I bet Elouise & Chuck will get a Chuckel out of that.

Our nephew (Marys son) is getting married in Feb. down in Tempe Ar., they want us to get down there but I don't know Betty is scared to fly and I can't imagine making that drive again so we will have to see.

For some strange reason I cannot seem to find a whole lot to write about this time, after reading these letters again for the 3rd. or 4th. time I guess I'm left with the feeling that we all have our

3

cross's to bear - with our health and family problems, I guess all I can think of to say is that I hope you and yours will have or have had the healthiest and happiest holidays ever and that you have many many more to come.

all our love

Frank, Betty & Mike

P.S. Jim and who ever else - let us know the cost of the pictures. and Jan. we would like a picture of Grandpa + Grandma Dumont and McGillis pictures on the bottom corners and also the 50 wedding at Van Etten.

Would appreciate the clipping returned as I had it under mom's Dads picture. Thought you would like to see it.

summer. 6-28-1908
60 YEARS AGO
ALCONA CO. HERALD
On Wednesday morning, Amel
Dumont claimed the fourth
Mikado June bride, Miss Amelia
McGillis as his own, when Rev.
J.W. Delhenty tied the everlast-
ing knot at St. Anne's Church in
Harrisville.

12-11-88

Dear Brothers & Sisters

(And here we go again)

Jim I want to thank you for the effort you have put into those pictures. Any pictures of Mom & Dad, the farm house, farm animals, and my Brothers and sisters will be most welcome. This also includes the barn and cars.

The letters of comings & goings of everyone is most interesting. One thing is for sure it is doubtful I will ever fly. It hurts mightily falling eight feet much less eight thousand.

Last October I received the shock of my life. I was just about 100% sure I had cancer. After many test and tons of prayers God answered me. It seems I have to much unfinished work down here to be done. Believe it when I tell you it was one scary feeling.

Theresa is on her third year of college. Todd is on his second expecting to go to central next fall. His dream is to be a teacher when he graduates. He started yesterday as a security guard at Bessers.

2-

I have started a most interesting project. I am trying to join twenty or so landowners together near the farm. This concerns the oil and gas leases of 3000 acres in that area. At this point we have the acres locked up but no buyer. Exploration in that area will come to pass. The main interest seems to be antrium drilling.

I have worked the last three Saturdays and will probably work the next. It seems the older one gets the more it hurts.

I had a avg deer season this year. No buck, 24 does, 3 turkeys 1 bat. My new 30-06 didn't make much noise. There was 3 bucks taken off the farm this year.

Soon it will be Christmas. A time and a brand new year. A good time to reflect on the past year and dream about the future. I want to take this time to wish all my brothers & sisters a Merry Christmas + Happy New Year.

With Love,
John Pat &
family