

Dear Family

1-6-95

I have been waiting for the holidays to get over before sending this letter on its way, we had a real nice x-mas hope all of yours was the same, Elaine you had as much snow as we did for a change so I guess we are even.

We got word today that Lester Loyer had passed away, I guess it was on tue. and the funeral was thurs., word travels so fast up here that so many times you find out after the fact.

John I don't know how you keep up? one thing I do know is after you retire you won't be supplying all those cars and Insurance for the whole family, there comes a time when our offspring have to shift for themselves (P.S. tell Pat the Sweets enjoyed her nursing while they were there.)

Jim - Mark told us you got a Dodge 10 cyl. pickup - I didn't know they made such a thing, hope you enjoyed the deer meat it was from Richards buck that he left here, I couldn't hunt this yr. - too soon after surgery.

Marty the info. on Summit Hk. was good looks like they have everything there but a floor show sounds like a nice place to visit.

Elaine - wish I were there, right now it is 8:30 P.M. the temp. is 14° above and not bad considering what it has been the last few nights and with the wind it's about 10° below wind chill so again wish I were, 4" of snow on the ground.

Joe - you won't get any deer tails from me this year as stated above - I did have the 410 with slugs at the sliding door in case a dumb one walked in but no luck, Joe are you trying to tell us you are going to Fla. for 4 mo. or are you just going for a wk. during that period? I can't imagine being away that long at one time maybe as soon as my rich Uncle gets out of the poor house I'll think about those lines Ha Ha. would be nice about now.

Sis glad to hear everything is going well for you and yours, we did not hear from you at this time so I guess you got as much notice on Lester as we did, I imagine he

is a lot better off now from what I heard.

Jan - after I talked to you by phone down there a lot did happen, we got Dave lined up with an attorney and now he has full custody of Chris at present he has moved to Mt. Clemens and is staying with Allen that is Sherries present husband (separated) and their daughter Amber, Sherrie decided to leave again on the 27th. of Dec. and is living with some 50+ yr. old x friend of her dads in Tenn. what a mixed up person - she is following in her mothers foot steps. Chris did not want to leave her sister Amber 7 yrs. right now and thats understandable with all they have been through lately, David + Allen get along real good and always home he is a certified mech. and takes on a lot of side jobs through work which he brings home and Dave does them in their garage splitting the money so it works out all the way around, Dave likes that kind of work and is good at it, Chris is so happy now that her and her Dad are together again.

I talked to you on Fri. I think or sat. I was coughing quite bad so went to Urgi Care in Clarkston got a shot in the butt and some

medicine on Sun. night was much worse so back to Urgi. care 11:00 P.M. and they said into St. Joe's Cardiac unit so there I was for 4 days, I had a cold for a wk. to 10 days before we went down but thought I was over it, I try to avoid anybody that even has the sniffels now seems I pick up everything.

I don't know if I told any of you this but when I went out in tawas St. Joe's before they flew me to Sag. St. Mary's I could hear them hollering code blue and shaking me and hitting my chest and I couldn't feel a thing - it seemed like I was watching all this happening to someone else, the only reason I mention this is to say I have never felt so warm and so comfortable as I did at that time so the thought of death does not bother me at all other than leaving loved ones behind - it can be a comforting exper.

I guess I've battled long enough so may God Bless and keep all of you and your families in good health and happy surroundings in this new year.

Your Loving Bro. Chuck

P.S. isn't it something how some people can use so much paper and say so little.

Feb 4, 1995

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Its time again when you all want to know whats happening up here in northern ~~Michigan~~ Michigan. It looks like now I will be unable to retire in March. Besser management changed the the contract forcing me to work two months longer. The local union has forced this complaint into arbitration. Its likely to cost Besser Co 50 to 100,000 dollars.

Deer season, last season was a real bumner. I shot at three bucks and lost all three. My deer call is working very good but I can't hit a darn thing. However I saw three bobcats and sixty nine deer in seven days. This was one my better years in this regard.

We all have enjoyed good health so far this winter. However 36 years of shop work is taking it,s toll on me. After retirement I will be able to take daily walks and rest when I get tired. My biggest concern is likely to be money problems. College cost and health problems can beat the bravest of men. I feel however this is the risk I must take this time in my life.

I am sure glad Elaine has decided to come back to Michigan for good. Now we will all have the time to visit her, yes even brother john.

I am looking foreward to spring as I am getting tired of cabin fever. Winter does however bring back memories of yesteryear. This is one of many things God has blessed us with.

I will have to close for now and and may God Bless each and every one of you.

Your Loving Brother,

John

P.S. Who says I can't type!

Feb. 16, 1995

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Well, the letters came last week and they provided a good lift for a dreary winter day. There isn't a lot of news around here but I will bring you up to date and move the letters along.

Everyone is healthy here except for a cold here and there or a pain here and there. I can hardly wait for it to warm up. We have a lot to look forward to.

Karen's pregnancy seems to be coming along fine. We have about one month left but I am sure she would not be opposed to the baby coming a little early.

Karen is also doing well at work. Her office has moved from Southfield to Auburn Hills. This means she is much closer to home. She also has a new title, "Supervisor of finance and administration". She is planning to be off work for 6 weeks when the baby is born but she will have a computer at home.

As many of you have heard, Brian is now in St. Louis. He got a job with McDonnell Douglas as a flight test engineer. We moved him down in January. He is settled now and is doing fine. I used my new truck to tow his furniture down. It ran beautifully.

I am trying to get the truck and trailer ready to do some traveling this summer. I

bought an air conditioner for the trailer this week.

I plan to check out the Dumont lake campground this summer. I expect we will do most of our traveling within Michigan this summer.

Elaine, if I get this letter in the mail, you will still have time to write one more letter from the sunny southwest. One way or another we will see you in April.

Joe, I don't expect to do all the traveling you do but I am glad you enjoy it and can do it. You should have a whole new report on this winter's travels for your next letter.

Sis, I hope to see you down here one of these days. It has been a while. Sorry you couldn't make it to the shower.

Jan & Jean, I hope you can enjoy some retirement time now. I pray for Jean to get "fit as a fiddle" so you can do some things. I will talk to you on the phone.

Frank, I don't remember you writing so much. It was great. Keep it up.

John, even if you have to wait until May to retire, you will still beat me. Now enjoy it.

Marty, I will check out the campground. It has a pretty good rating in my campground directory.

God bless you all.

Love
Jim

DUMONT FAMILY LETTER
FROM BROTHER MARTY

2-20-95

I RECEIVED THE LETTERS SATURDAY AND WE HAD A GOOD TIME READING THEM SO I GUESS I CAN GET IT ON THE ROAD AND ELAINE WILL RECEIVE IT BEFORE MARCH ARRIVES.

WE WILL BE ON OUR WAY TO THE BAHAMAS IN THREE WEEKS AND A GOOD TEN DAY VACATION. I CAN'T WAIT. THE WEATHER YESTERDAY WAS WARM. THE UPPER 50'S BUT I WOULD IMAGINE WE WILL GET ABOUT TWO MORE STORMS BEFORE SPRING WILL COME.

I JUST TALKED TO ELAINE ABOUT A WEEK AGO SO I DON'T HAVE ANY NEW NEWS FOR HER.

JOE, I WOULD IMAGINE YOU ARE ALL TRIPPED OUT. YOU SURE ARE A LUCKY GUY TO BE ABLE TO TRAVEL AND ENJOY ALL THAT WONDERFUL SOUTHERN WARMTH. MY 92 BUICK NOW HAS 109,000 AND I THINK IT HAS ANOTHER 109,000 TO GO.

SIS AND ROG. SHALIMAAR SHIRAH IS JUST A BEAUTIFUL HORSE. I AM SURE YOU ARE PROUD OF HIM. I KNOW I WOULD BE. HOPE ALL IS WELL THERE.

JANICE AND JEAN--

I TRUST ALL IS GETTING A WHOLE LOT BETTER WITH YOU TWO. I ENVY ALL YOU GUYS WANTING TO RETIRE. I HAVE NINE YEARS LEFT AND I SHALL DO THE SAME. JEAN, OUR FRIEND HERE

WHO HAD THE SAME OPERATION AS YOU IS DOING VERY WELL ALSO. HE IS BACK DOING CARPENTRY WORK AND HAS NO AFTER EFFECTS. THATS GOOD NEWS, HEY.

FRANK, I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT YOU WROTE A BOOK. I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO WRITE FOUR PAGES AT ONE TIME SINCE I WAS IN THE SERVICE. GOOD GOING. I SURE MISS COMING UP TO SEE THE DEER. I HOPE YOU ARE STILL FEEDING THEM. I WILL SEE YOU ONE OF THESE DAYS.

JACK, I GUESS ITS GOING TO BE A COUPLE OF MONTHS YET TILL YOU RETIRE. YOU HAVEN'T SAID HOW LONG IT IS BEFORE PAT RETIRES. JUST THINK, ALL YOU WILL HAVE TO DO GO FOR WALKS AND HIT THE ROAD ONCE IN A WHILE. GREAT JOB ON THE TYPING.

JIM, YOU SURE ARE A LUCK GUY TO HAVE A BRAND NEW DODGE RAM 2500-- I HOPE YOU USED YOUR FARM BUREAU DISCOUNT FOR ANOTHER \$500 DOLLARS OFF ON THAT NEW MACHINE. THAT SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM PULLING THAT TRAVEL TRAILER. I TRUST THAT YOU WILL BE OVER IN THE BATTLE CREEK AREA CHECKING OUT DUMONT LAKE. WE ARE ALL EXCITED TO HEAR HOW IT IS.

AS FOR US, DANA IS EXPECTING THE LAST OF JULY OR THE FIRST OF AUGUST. SHARI HAS MOVED TO HER OWN APARTMENT AND I AM PREPARING TO BE A GRANDPA. I GUESS I AM READY. GOT TO GO.

LOVE

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely reading "Mike", is written in the bottom right corner of the page.

Feb 1945

Dear Brother, Sisters, Spouses & Children:
Maybe this will be the last from the S.W. desert!
It's been a wet winter for Ariz. but it's really coming in
to "nice" days now.

It's always so good to read whats' on your minds, I
only am in "touch" with so few of you. Whats' on my
mind doesn't seem very interesting for me to write about,
trying to rid myself of 50 yrs of memorabilia etc.
Can't let professions possess me.

Had a call from Ethel Rose, she's working on a Dumont
Genealogy - sounds like no one is left out. Some day she
plans to have copies for all of us. She doesn't plan to
visit Michigan for three years, hence. I don't plan for three
weeks ahead any more, less than that!

God willing, my return air fare is April 13 AM. Hope
I'll have all the loose ends tied up and ready to go.
The people who brought this home are flying in from Alberta
that same PM.

I'm out of things to write about. It was great to
hear your news, you all have so much to say and do.

God bless you all.

Edna

Cadillac, MI 49601

March 10, 1995

Dear Family:

First to explain my goof of the last letter. I was using the scrap letter attached as a backup sheet and didn't look very well at what I was doing, in haste to get the letters ready to mail. My feelings on insurance have been firmed up of late by sad experience. Whole Life Ins. is for the suckers, especially if you have to borrow from it, they git you on interest on both ends. If you need the money, surrender the policy for what ever value it has. Term is fine for a limited purpose - dump it when the purpose is completed.

We shortened our Florida winter vacation to less than 3 weeks due to the mistake of renting a place that you haven't lived in before, or can't control the quality of maintenance. The owner wouldn't fix the substandard items - so we had to leave. We will probably loose \$400 or so on the deal. Let be a lesson to all of you, don't rent or lease any thing for longer than a weekend without looking it over very very well. We switched to our timeshare for two weeks on the way back home. We would get about one day per week of good weather. You were better off at home this winter.

It appears that we may be on the verge of an early spring, if the weather man is correct. We received plenty of snow and cold since we got home.

I have had to start high blood pressure treatment due to what, I don't yet know, probably due to our wonderful travel experience of late.

Mary, I don't understand your stationary, it sure appears that you have started a branch of your own, don't get on a branch and get sawed off some day. We all pray that youall will be guided by Christ and his servents in your undertakings.

The horse is truly a beauty if God ever made one. We are very happy for Jan and Robert.

Jan, you sure are getting into this retirement thing, go go go. Jean there will be better days ahead, just learn to go with the flow and take time to smell the flowers and kick some cans as we observe what God has placed here for our use in this short stay on earth.

Frank I can't believe you wrote that long letter, what ever got into you?

Our youngest, Joe, has also just gained child custody of his son. This kind of thing appears to be a sign of our time. I hate to see a child away from its mother for very long, but it appears necessary, more and more lately. Betty, encourage him to continue writing long letter.

Jim, ~~XXX~~ I hope you have time to wear-out that truck and not let it rust to death in the side yard, it really looks nice. Keep us informed on the sites you visit, as well as the Grand kids.

John, typing looks good for you, keep it up. I wish I didn't make so many mistakes, I make so many that I give up correcting them. I often wish that I was close enough to the old farm to enjoy it now and then in the good seasons of the year.

Marty we all hope your vacation in the Bahamas was restful and safe. Also that it was warmer than when we went there in '88. Which Buick do you have that is so good? Our Mercury has just turned 100,000 miles and appears to be excellent yet. It appears that the cars are getting better in our advancing years. Are those Farm Bureau discounts on anything but farm vehicles? Grand kids are really starting to count up in this family.

Elaine we have given you most of the news by phone during the winter. We had a week next door to Daytona and then a week on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. The ideal time to visit those areas is early spring or early fall, with more predictable weather and beautiful plants. I expect there would be more people also. Savannah, GA is quite nice most of the time, we had a beautiful day there.

We will be looking for you soon and are ready to assist when ever you need, just ask.

God bless you all for now,



3-15-95

My Dear Bro's + Sisters

I've just returned from a wonderful leadership retreat given by the D.C.R. Detroit Charismatic Catholic Renewal. Roy + I planned to go together but our mare was due to foal and she still hasn't. In case anyone has misunderstood our stationary. We are under Cardinal Mada and the Pope and of course the D.C.R. I've taught CCD for 20 yrs and Roy has been a Minister of the Eucharist for over 15 yrs. We are very active in our local Church and don't expect to be loped off. I know you didn't know all this hence I forgive you Joe.

We are all praying for you Frank. It was nice to read such a nice long letter. Jan just called and I called Betty. Please Frank will you stop smoking. We love you and want you to live. I'll go up as soon as possible.

We are all praying for you too Jean. I'm able to keep better tabs on you Jan + Jean as we talk once in awhile. Glad you are improving.

Thank you John for the call about Frank. We really want to know when one of us are in trouble even tho they would rather not both us. Its no bother when its a loved one. You mentioned Spring and its really here early. Its been 73° to 75° for the last 3 days. P.H.L.

Jim we are anxiously waiting to hear the Baby has arrived. Its the most exciting to have Grand children. We are so happy for you. Our very best to the new parents.

Marty I called you about Frank but guess you are on vacation. Glad you are enjoying yourself. Our very best to Dana and her Baby. You and Jim are stepping into the Grand parental state together. Joy

Claine its great that you are going to be back here with the rest of us. Our early Spring hopefully will hold and you will feel right at home.

Joe, I'm glad our winter wasn't bad since you come home early. I like a little winter. It makes Spring that much better and whats more beautiful than a crystal day?

All of you come and see us when you get a chance. We went to Alice Michauds Funeral and saw a lot of people we haven't seen in years. Its sad that it has to be such an event. Many people ask about all of you.

Our Family is just about the same. No new grandchildren and the ones we have are all getting older. Dawn & Dan and Joshua all graduate next year.

Our love to all my Brothers and Sisters and their spouses. May God bless you all and all your Families.

Mary (Sis)
Reg + all

#17
3-29-95

DEAR LOVED ONES:

THIS LAST ROUND TOOK ABOUT THREE AND A HALF MONTHS TO MAKE THE TRIP. ARE WE LONESOME OR WHAT.

FRANK, YOU SURE DID WRITE A LONG LETTER. I HOPE DAVE, ALLEN, CHRIS AND AMBER CAN MAKE A GO OF IT. IT WILL SURE SAY A LOT FOR DADS IF THEY CAN PULL IT OFF. I'VE BEEN HEARING A LOT ABOUT YOUR ESCAPADES (HOSPITAL VISITS) LATELY. I'M SURE ANOTHER SERMON FROM ME WON'T HELP. THE CHOICE IS YOURS. DIVINE HELP CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. YOUR "OUT OF BODY" EXPERIENCE LAST SUMMER SOUNDS LIKE WHAT HAPPENED IN THE BOOK "EMBRACED BY THE LIGHT". HAVE YOU READ IT YET?

I WANT TO GO UP NORTH FOR A FEW DAYS THIS SPRING. I WANT TO LOOK FOR LOCAL WRITINGS ABOUT THAT AREA IN THE EARLY 1900'S. SOMEBODY WROTE A BOOK CALLED "BECKONING HANDS". THE SETTING IS AROUND CEDAR LAKE AND THE SARADELLA FARM. I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TRACK IT DOWN^{IN} BOOK STORES AND BOOK SEARCH COMPANIES DOWN HERE.

WE EXPECT ELAINE HERE ON THE 13TH OF APRIL. SHE IS SHIPPING HER CAR HERE AND WANTS TOM TO TAKE IT TO THE DEALERSHIP AND WORK IT OVER. WE WILL TRY TO DO SOME RUNNING AROUND WHILE THAT HAPPENS. FOR SURE WE WILL GO TO SIS'S AND MAYBE BOTH OF US WILL GET A PERM.

JOHN - FOR THE MOST PART - RETIREMENT IS GREAT. IT TAKES A WHILE TO COME UP WITH A WORKABLE ROUTINE. AT OTHER TIMES I FEEL DEPRESSED. ITS NICE TO SLEEP IN MOST MORNINGS AND NOT HAVE A RIGID TIMETABLE TO GET THINGS DONE. JEAN HAS BEEN BUSY EVERYDAY GETTING A RENTAL HOUSE READY. SINCE HIS DOCTOR TOLD HIM HE COULD DO MOST ANYTHING (EXCEPT HEAVY LIFTING) HE HAS BEEN THERE MOST EVERY DAY FOR THE LAST MONTH. RON WILL BE TAKING OVER THAT HOUSE ON A LAND CONTRACT. HE WILL RENT THE HOUSE OUT AND USE THE 3-CAR GARAGE TO DO COUNTERTOPS AND ETC. IN. HE INSULATED IT TOP AND SIDES AND PUT A FURNACE IN. HER JOB REQUIRES THEM TO LIVE ON THE PREMISES.

SOME OF YOU HAVE HEARD THAT JIM AND CAROLYN ARE GRANDPARENTS. MEGAN AMELIA ARRIVED LAST THURSDAY SAFE AND SOUND. WOULD YOU

BELIEVE THE GRANDPARENTS LOST 3 DAYS WORK EACH TO GET THIS BIRTH ACCOMPLISHED? LIFE IS HARD.

MARTY AND SONDA - HOW WERE THE BAHAMAS? I EXPECT YOU ARE BACK HOME AND HARD AT WORK. SEE IF YOU GUYS CAN BECOME GRANDPARENTS WITH A LITTLE LESS HYPE. I CAN SEE ONE DAY - BUT THREE?

JOE - HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE MUST RUN IN THE FAMILY. I HAVE IT AND TOM AND JIM BOTH TAKE MEDICATION FOR IT. IT'S WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW YOU HAVE IT THAT YOU CAN GET INTO TROUBLE. I'VE BEEN TAKING MEDICINE FOR IT FOR TEN YEARS ALREADY.

IT'S TOO BAD YOUR FLORIDA TRIP HAD TO END EARLY. BUT I GUESS YOU LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE. I REALLY DON'T YEARN TO GO DOWN SOUTH. I HAVE TO STAY OUT OF THE SUN SO A CRUISE THAT WAY WILL BE A ONE TIME THING IF AT ALL.

JOE - DON'T WORRY ABOUT SIS AND ROGER. THEY ARE MORE TUNED IN TO THE LORD THAN MOST OF US. THEY HAVE A WONDERFUL MINISTRY VISITING AND PRAYING WITH THE SICK AND DYING. THIS ALSO TAKES CONSIDERABLE TIME AND FUNDS. WE HAVE CALLED THEM FOR PRAYERS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS.

OUR ROBERT AND VICKIE GOT MARRIED LAST WEEK. HER TWO CHILDREN JEREMY AND JESSICA WERE THEIR ATTENDANTS. THEY PLAN A YARD RECEPTION IN JULY. WE NOW HAVE EIGHT BIRTH GRANDCHILDREN AND FIVE STEP-GRANDCHILDREN. TOM AND GALE EXPECT AGAIN IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

MY CORRECT TAPE RAN OUT SO IF YOU FIND ANY MISTAKES - SO BE IT. I GUESS I'LL BE LIKE JOE AND SAY I DON'T CARE NO MORE-NO MORE.

LOVE TO ALL FEW DOZEN OF YOU,

WE HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU THIS SUMMER. A DATE SHOULD BE DECIDED ON SO OTHER VACATION PLANS CAN BE MADE.

Jan and Jean



Roger and Mary Bruce

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Imlay City, MI 48444

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8-16-95

My Dear Bro's & Sisters,

Im so sorry to have missed all of you at the Family Reunion. I recieved the Family letters on 8-14-95. How I wish it would have been 8-4-95 then I would have known it was in a Hall and not a park. It was so Bazaar and if there hadn't been eight of us in 3 different cars looking for it I would think I was crazy. The Dements dropped off the face of the earth and we couldn't find them. We went up and down the road 3 times and someone at the store suggested we look at the camp ground, which we did. Then I recalled Johns call and thought of course its at the Farm down at the river. All three cars

went down to the river. It was very memorable, but no one was there. None of us had seen the Dumont Reunion sign. We all went to the cottage on Van Otter Lake that Jan's Family (the hills) had rented for the week-end and had a cook out with them. We made several stops and in every case they were badly in need of prayer. The last stop was at Aunt Emma's. She had just come home from the reunion and told us where it was. Chuck had seen the sign. We had prayer with Aunt Emma for Roy. We gave her a "Gods Promises" book for him. A lot of good came out of our trip and it is no ones fault. Just a bit of misunderstanding.

Roger's Mom is very bad and in a rest home. We go every other day or so to be with her. Its so hard to be 99 years



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Jan + You will be coming on 8-29-95 for your perm. That would be Mom's 100th Birthday. Lets celebrate it for her. I made up a quilt top into a quilt that was in Mom things. I entered it in the Fair and Mom + I got a third place. Jan + I got a blue ribbon for her decorated cake.

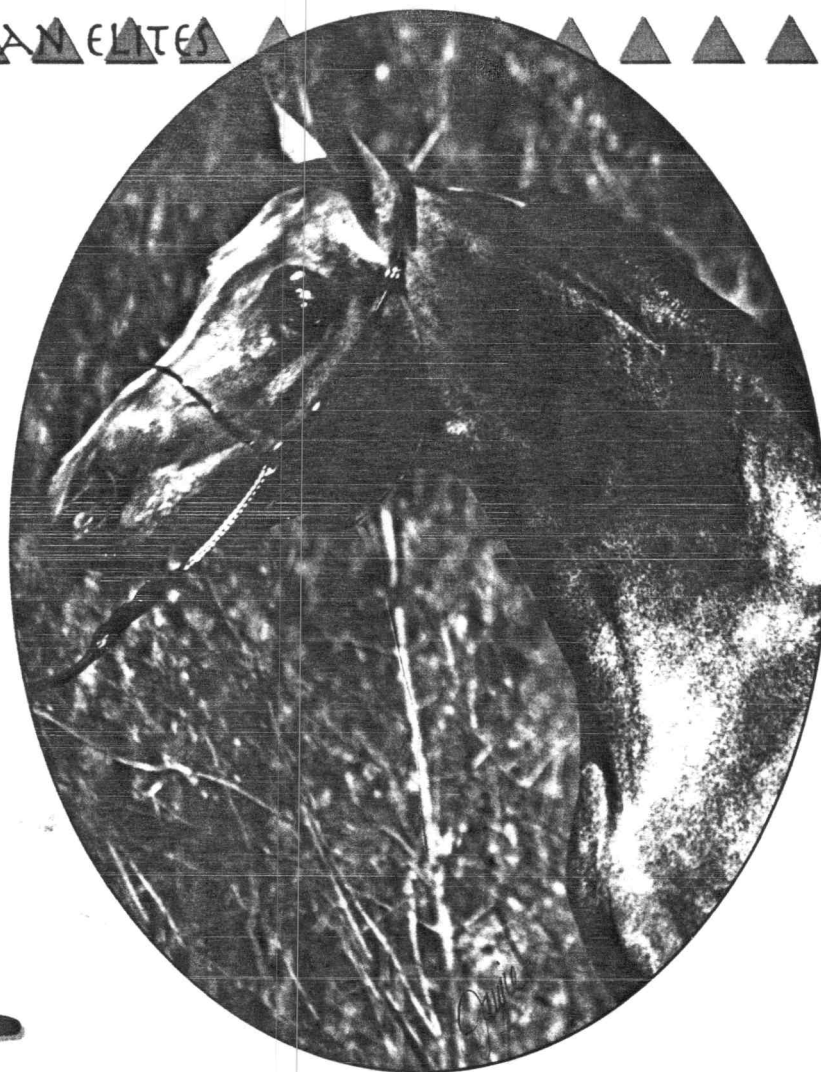
Frank + Betty you mentioned the horses so I'll enclose a flier from the Egyptian Event at the Kentucky horse park. We took him (Shalimaar Shirah) down in June and he did very well. It was exciting. You both did very well with the Family reunion Frank + Betty. I know it was a lot of work for you.

John + Pat. You clearly state in your letter where the reunion was only I got the letters 10 day after the fact. All things work for good for those who trust in God, so I believe the visits

4. we made was very important to God.
my heart ached for awhile until I
realized what was happening. God
didn't cause the mix-up but he
allowed it. No one is to be blamed
Happy retirement Bro.

Marty & Sonda I understand from Joe's
letter that you are having the reunion
next year. We will have it the
following year if that's alright with
everyone. So happy about your new
grand baby. Isn't it the most won-
derful thing that can happen. Lots
better than being a parent.

Jim & Carolyn - Sounds like retirement
is exciting for you, also Grandparenting.
I'm slowing down a little in the
Beauty Shop. Usually about 3 days. Rog
is cutting down on the horses also.
Our new priest has ask for him to
help him coordinate the parish. Fr
Dunn retires Sept 1st and the Bishop
wants Rog to assist the new pastor.
So much for retirement, but with



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the help of God the Holy Spirit he
will do a good job.
Elaine - we made a run up to Onoway
to pick up a horse. we had the
truck + trailer so we didn't stop.
Hopefully next time we will be in the
car. Haven't seen you since June
but its even longer for the others.
I miss everyone.

Joe + Jockie - Received your call and
got Aunt Margaret on the prayer line.
Hopefully she is doing much better.
Sorry we missed you down at the
sire. we must have been there
about 2:30. You mentioned Clara. Here
is her address if any one wants to
write. we correspond.

Clara Watson

4202 Hallendale dr.
Las Vegas, Nv. 89117-
4933

6. No earth shaking changes with
our various Families at this time.
This is so long already and your
probably all bored.

We love you + miss you all
Sis, Roy
+ Family

Cadillac, MI
Aug. 10, 1995

Dear Family:

Most of you know that Jackie's Aunt Margaret had been in the process of moving into a unit similar to what Mom was in at Imlay City. She had found a buyer for her home. On Aug 3rd she was in a buss accident with 17 others from the living unit and 3 staff workers. Five died and three others are in guarded condition. Aunt Margaret was thought to be doing well but on the 8th she had a bad eppiccode that we thought might be a slight stroke, it started just before we visited and lasted for several hours, followed by many tests. Apparently negative results on the tests. We just learned that she will be moving to a Ree-Hab Unit tomorrow morning, which is good news. Thanks for all your prayers for her well being. This letter has been delayed several days waiting for accident recovery reesults, and I just didn't feel like writing or typing under the stress circumstances.

We were quite worried by the unexplained absence of one part of the family at the reunion until we heard that they had their one reunion on the beach a couple of miles away. Phones are wonderful devices guys.

Apparently all of the family are in reasonably good health for a change, even the questionable members seemed in fine shape for the shape they are in. Retirement can be very healthful if you give it a chance. I must confess that recent events have raised both of our blood pressures.

Following the reunion, we and our daughter (Denise's family) visited the cemetary and the old farm as far as the river picnic site. The change is remarkable since the cattle haven't been around to eat most everything that grew, its becoming a wildlife haven.

I have the feeling that Elaine has completed her move in good fashion and many good times are to come. We are all with you in any needs that you have.

Aunt Emmas visit to the reunion was a treet for us and I think she enjoyed herself, the same for Chuck.

I felt that John and Frank did a good job on the reunion and their worries proved to be unfounded except for some a-wal members that shall be un named. Thanks loads to all the family members that helped. Marty feel that his family is the next in age seniority and has already reserved most of the hardware for next August ?

I expect Jim's are seasoned trailer people now that they have survived the shake-down cruises.

As for new Grand Parents, we are fresh out of non Grand Parents and are down to acting Grand Parent Elaine. Good luck to all the new family arrivals and may they all prosper in Gods graces.

Mary, son Joe tried to contact Clara Watson on his last trip out west but got no answer with two tries. He was busy and didn't think to write down the phone number.

I also remember hearing about the Cedar Lake mistery book. It seems that I read or heard alot about the story. I heard a lot from Dad about the area history.

I have a hunch that Martin is getting too much acquainted with us retirees and our ways, next thing you know he will be retired but claiming to be working, on the side of course.

See youall next time, God Bless

/ 67 1-2

July 22 1995

Dear Dumont

I'm back It's busy here which I need -
too busy, at least these summer days, hopes
the winter days aren't too much the other
way.

It's nice having all seven letters to read
in one sitting, like having you all right
here.. Of course I read and reread them. Good
that four of you typed. I sure hope my
writing is readable!

Hope to see a lot of you at the picnic, family
"reunion" that is? I know the nieces and
nephews are busy with other plans, maybe
some day they will want to know their
"Roots" !!?

I'm always pleased to have you stop in on
your way somewhere or come to visit for and
Jean sure gave me alot of help with the car
and my stuff! Hamlet put Sam Lakes out of
my mind.

P.S. Life is fragile. Much love and prayers to all.
Handle with prayer.

Elaine

HELLO EVERYONE

JULY 17TH, 1995

HAVE BEEN SETTING ON THE LETTERS HOPEING THAT THE BABY WOULD BE HERE, BUT NO LUCK SO GUESS I WILL GET THEM OUT. TALKED TO ELAINE THE OTHER DAY AND ALL IS WELL THERE.

JOE, I AM STARTING TO FEEL SORRY FOR YOU. YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT YOUR TYPEWRITER MAKING MISTAKES, YOUR TRAVEL PLANS GOING SOUR, YOUR LIFE INSURANCE GOING BAD. MAYBE YOU SHOULD CONTACT A PROFESSIONAL AND HAVE THEM HELP YOU OUT. AT LEAST IF THEY SCREW UP, THEN YOU HAVE SOME PERSON TO BLAME.

SIS, IT SOUNDS LIKE LIKE ALL IS GOING JUST FINE WITH YOU. I GUESS IF YOU HAVE IT ALL STRAIGHT WITH GOD, THEN EVERY THING ELSE WILL FALL INTO LINE.

JANICE, NO WE WILL NOT TAKE THREE DAYS OFF OF WORK WHEN THE NEW BABY ARRIVES. SONDA PLANS A VACATION AT THAT TIME AND SHE WILL GO DOWN AND SPEND A WEEK WITH DANA AND BABY. GRANDPA WILL STAY HOME AND TAKE CARE OF HIS BUSINESS . JEAN, I HOPE ALL IS GOING GOOD WITH YOU. YOU SHOULD TAKE IT EASY AND NOT OVERDO IT.

FRANK, BY THE TIME I SEE YOU, KEVIN AND MARY WILL PROBABLY HAVE THEIR BABY . AM REALLY GOING TO BE GLAD WHEN THIS NEXT MONTH IS OVER . MY SECRETARY HAD TO ASK FOR TWO MONTHS OFF SO I AM LEARNING THE WORD PERFECT FOR DUMMIES.

JACK, I BET YOU ARE KEEPING BUSY. I CAN'T WAIT FOR NINE YEARS TO GO BY SO I CAN OFFICIALLY HANG IT UP AND START DOING THE THINGS THAT I WANT TO DO FOR A CHANGE. HOW DOES PAT LIKE HAVING YOU HOME MAKING ALL THOSE HANDY MAN JOBS COME TRUE.

JIM, YOU ARE NOW OFFICIALLY RETIRED. I WILL TRY TO FIND SOME JOBS FOR YOU TO DO. GIVE ME SOME TIME. SONDA WOULD LIKE TO PUT VYNAL SIDEING ON THE HOUSE NEXT YEAR BUT I WOULD LIKE TO PUT IT OFF FOR ANOTHER TEN YEARS. HOWS THAT. SEE YOU ALL AT THE PICNIC.

LOVE,

SONDA AND MARTY

June 22, 1995

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Well, I am officially retired from teaching and am now working on driver ed. I have seven more days left and should be finished by June 30, 1995. I am working 12 to 13 hour days now so I don't know how it feels yet to be retired. I am just plain tired.

As most of you know, Karen & John's baby, Meghan Amelia, was born March 23rd. We have been blessed with a healthy baby. She was baptised last Sunday. Even with her next door, I don't get to see her as much as I want.

Mark and Sheila are doing about the same as before. Mark and I redid the soffet & fascia on their porch the other day with vinyl and aluminum. It looks sharp.

Karen and John are a bit more tired these days but that is to be expected. Karen is back to work but is negotiating how much time she will work this summer. John has been working a lot of hours lately.

Brian is enjoying his job in St. Louis. Of course there are good days and bad days but over all he is happy to be there.

Jeff is on co-op this summer. He will graduate from U. of M. Dearborn next year.

Carolyn and I plan to take the trailer

out for the first time this weekend. We plan to go to Groveland Oaks (a county park) about 35 miles away. It should be a good shake-down trip. We expect to be camping in the Mitado area around Aug. 5th.

Jan, I remember reading the book "Beckoning Hands" when I was a kid and have tried to find a copy but it is long out of print. It is about some murders that took place at Karl E. Schmitt's ^{COOK} home on Cedar Lake. He was a rich furrier from Detroit who came up there and built the Saredella farm. He would bring guests up there and entertain them. Some were murdered and thus - the murder mystery.

Well I will quit for now and get this into the mail. God bless all of you and I hope to see you all soon.

Love
Jim & Carolyn.

May 17, 1995

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As you all know by now a Dumont family reunion will take place here in Ossineke Mich, on August 5 th of 1995. The hall is located on US 23 at the blinker light. This is known as downtown Ossineke for those from the big cities. The flyer from Frank indicated 1 to 5 however the hall should be open by 10 AM. Please inform Betty as to how many hungry souls will be there.

Two miles away is the Ossineke beach. One mile away is the Dinosaur Gardens. The farm is just twenty eight miles away for those that like adventure. Since my camera was recently stolen by a over zealous gremlin. I would suggest you all bring a camera. This year we will not need chairs, tables or bug spray. Just notify Betty as to how many are planning on coming.

I have finally retired from Bessers. It sure seems strange to be forced out of at (anytime). I believe the secret of retirement is you can control your own destiny. Working you have very little control over your life, it's better known as strees.

I have 450 ft of cyclone fence to teardown and replace. this year. This should keep me out of trouble atleast for now. I have tried also to get in the habit of walking up to two miles a day. I just don't want to add fat to other health problems.

I will have to close for now and see you all on August 5th.

Your Loving Brother,
John

Warrior pavilion rental policy set

OSCODA - With the adoption of a contract on Monday, the Oscoda Township Board of Trustees set policy for use of Warrior Pavilion at Air Force Beach by the general public.

The board will allow the pavilion to be rented by individuals, groups and businesses for the holding of events provided certain conditions are met.

First of these is the payment of a \$250 per day hall rental fee plus a \$250 damage deposit. The township also requires a certificate of insurance for its protection.

Anyone renting the hall with plans to serve alcoholic beverages must also provide liquor liability insurance.

Whenever alcoholic beverages are served, or at any other time the township deems necessary, the renter of the hall must also pay for security police, to be furnished by the township. The board of trustees can waive this requirement upon application.

The board has received numerous requests to rent the pavilion for parties, receptions and other events, approving six to date.

Under the new policy, this responsibility is delegated to the township clerk and supervisor, streamlining the process.

The policy and contract for renting the hall were presented to the board by Carl Sachs, executive director of the Oscoda Township Office for Economic Adjustment. He indicated the policies have been reviewed and approved by the township's insurance consultant, insurance carrier and attorney.

Market Page Want
Ads PAY!

4-26-95

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT


JOHN A. DUMONT

John joined Besser Company in 1957 as a factory janitor. He worked on the stationary drill, milling machine, and straightening press until 1966. John transferred to Department 70, Grinding, in December 1966 as a band saw operator. In addition to the band saw, John also operates the threader and chamfering machines located in Department 70.

John and his wife, Patricia, have some "mini trips" within Michigan planned for the near future. Years ago, John enjoyed trout fishing and looks forward to starting that hobby up again also. It won't be all fun and relaxation, as John states he has a fence to replace as well as a lot of yard work to keep him busy.

John and his wife reside in Ossineke. They have three children and three grandchildren all living in Michigan.

After 36 years of service, John will retire on Friday, 5 May. Please stop by Department 70 and join us in wishing him the best in his retirement.



Janet Behnke
Personnel Dept.
1 May 1995

Dear Family

4-30-95

I've had this letter for some time now so guess I had better get it on the move, it seems like I am so tired any more I don't have the pep to get started on anything.

Aunt Emma called yesterday - she is doing fine she said her son Roy and family were here to visit her in March, he and Chuck went riding around talking about the past and after they went back to Penn. or where ever they live Chuck told her my God Roy is an old man and Aunt Emma said no he's not old he is just not well, after they got home I guess Roy had a heart attack and was in the Hosp.

John this coming wk. will be your last I guess hey?, I wish you many happy yrs. of retirement and good health to go along with it, good luck on the fence.

Now it sounds like you are planning the same come June and I wish the same for you, I expect to hear many tales from you on the highway in the coming yrs.

Marty, glad to hear that you guys had a good time in the Bahamas it sure does lift your spirits in the middle of the cold weather hey?, Kevin and Mary also are expecting the end of July or 1st. of Aug.

Elaine, I guess you are back in Mich. now although I don't have any idea where?, I'm sure this weather seems awfully cold to you, this time of year we get winds out of the east off the lake and its cold even though the sun is out real nice. the people that bought your home in Ag. are they there permanent now or just part yr.? I understand they can only be out of Canada for so long at a time something about there Med. insurance.

Joe, it sounds like your Southern trek this past winter will not go into your scrap book as one of your all time favorites but I guess those things happen at times when you are on the road, I hope it doesn't keep you guys from trying again - I'm afraid that by mid Feb. you and Jackie would be throwing coffee cups or snow shovels or something at each other.

Sis, over on next page

Sis, glad to hear that the new foal finally arrived, thats almost as bad as having your 1st. Grand child just ask Jim & Carolyn I understand they ~~took~~ took a wk. off from work when their 1st. one arrived ha ha, I was glad you and Rog. got to see people that you haven't seen in many yrs. and yes sad to say its to bad it takes a funeral for that to happen.

Jan, no I have not read the book you mention, as for the book Beckoning Hands there is an old feller up here that has done quite a lot of writing on the old days, on occasion he has an article in the Escudo paper, as for high blood pressure I don't have it maybe you guys should consider smoking or something no not really, glad to hear Jean is put and about again, as for Dave & Allen it seems that they are doing just fine although Dave it appears has been a baby sitter most evenings as Allen is dating again, it sounds like come summer he will be moving back to the Pontiac area near work, Chris is planning on spending most of the summer here with us, the girls did spend 2 weeks in Tenn. with their Mother at Easter.

As for the Family reunion I don't know what to say at times I feel like lets go for it and at other times I don't know if I can stand the strain, I am including an article on the pavilion at Air Force beach near Escoda it seems a little much but I don't know maybe thats the going rate, Mukado Comm. center is 225.00 + Dep. per hr. or day, John mentioned a hall in Ossineke that has a fee I can't believe, as for having it here I don't feel the pump or the septic field would stand the strain, by the time we ordered tents - porta johns tables etc. maybe those places don't sound to bad?, we will do some more checking and if we can come up with something soon we will get back with all of you as soon as possible.

thats it for this time.

All over love to you + your family's

Frank + Betty

#18
SEPTEMBER 23, 1995

DEAR BROTHERS, SISTERS, SPOUSES AND FOLLOWERS:

I GUESS IT'S TIME TO GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD AGAIN. AS SOME OF YOU HAVE HEARD, TOM AND GALE HAD A BABY GIRL ON LABOR DAY. HOW'S THAT FOR PLANNING? HER NAME IS ABIGALE MARIE - WEIGHT WAS 7 LBS. 11 OZS. ALL ARE DOING WELL.

GM HAS TRANSFERRED JOE BACK TO MICHIGAN WITH ABOUT TWO WEEKS NOTICE. HE IS STAYING WITH US FOR NOW. PAT STAYED IN MINNEAPOLIS AS THE KIDS HAD JUST STARTED SCHOOL. HE WENT HOUSE HUNTING AND SHE FLEW IN ONE MORNING - LOOKED AT THREE POSSIBILITIES, THEY MADE AN OFFER - IT WAS ACCEPTED - THE CLOSING IS NEXT FRIDAY. THE PEOPLE ARE MOVING OUT RIGHT AWAY SO I'LL BET PAT AND THE KIDS ARE HERE WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH. THEY DON'T HAVE TO BE IN THEIR MINNEAPOLIS HOUSE TO SELL IT AND GM WILL BUY IT IF IT DOES'NT SELL WITHIN TWO MONTHS. MEANWHILE HER PARENTS ARE GIVING THEM A SHORT TERM LOAN UNTIL ALL THAT CAN BE RESOLVED. WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE THEM LOCAL AGAIN. THAT WILL LEAVE ONLY CHUCK IN RENO. WHILE UP AT THE REUNION, I WAS ABLE TO TRACK DOWN THE BOOK CALLED "BECKONING HANDS" AT THE LIBRARY IN HARRISVILLE. THEY HAD TWO COPIES BUT I COULDN'T CHECK IT OUT BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE A MICHIGAN STICKER ON MY LOCAL LIBRARY CARD. I DID LEARN THAT IT WAS CONSIDERED FICTION. NEXT TIME I GO UP THERE I WILL CHECK IT OUT AND READ IT. WE DID SEE A FEW OLD BARNS THAT WERE PART OF THE SARADELLA FARM.

SPEAKING OF LIBRARIES, I'VE BEEN VOLUNTEERING AT OUR NEW ONE IN ROCHESTER. "FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY" COLLECT AND SORT USED BOOKS FOR SALES ABOUT FOUR TIMES A YEAR. LAST YEAR "THE FRIENDS" DONATED MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS BACK TO THE LIBRARY. I HAVE WORKED ABOUT 50 HOURS SINCE SUMMER STARTED. SOME OF IT IS VERY EXHAUSTING. JEAN DOESN'T SEEM TO MIND SO I'M STARTING TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY FOR ALL THE TIMES I WAS TOO BUSY RAISING A FAMILY AND WORKING. I DO ENJOY IT.

LAST WEEKEND JOE DECIDED HE WOULD PAINT OUR LIVINGROOM AND KITCHEN FOR US. WE DIDN'T WANT TO TACKLE IT BECAUSE OF THE 30 FT. SPAN ON THE CEILING. WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE THAT DONE. WE STILL HAVE THE BACK HALL, LANDING AND STAIRS TO THE BASEMENT TO DO. THIS MORNING I TAPED ALL THE WOOD TRIM IN THOSE AREAS. THIS AFTERNOON I MADE A BATCH OF OATMEAL COOKIES AND A PEACH COBBLER. I HAVEN'T MADE ONE OF THOSE IN A LONG, LONG TIME. I HOPE IT'S GOOD.

MOST OF YOUR LETTERS WERE WRITTEN BEFORE THE REUNION SO I FEEL LIKE WE'VE COVERED A LOT OF IT AT THE REUNION.

JOE AND JACKIE, I HOPE YOUR AUNT MARGARET HAS RECOVERED FROM ALL HER INJURIES.

THINGS HAVE SLOWED DOWN HERE TOO. THE RENTAL HOUSE IS FINISHED AND RON HAS TAKEN IT OVER. HE SEEMS HAPPY AND PROUD TO BE A LAND OWNER EVEN IT HE DOESN'T LIVE THERE.

JEAN IS ALWAYS BUSY WITH ONE PIECE OF MACHINERY OR ANOTHER. HE IS NOW OVERHAULING A TRANSMISSION JACK FOR MIKE. MIKE WILL RESELL IT ON HIS SNAP-ON TOOL ROUTE AND I EXPECT SHARE THE PROFIT WITH HIS DAD. THEY DON'T TELL ME THE DETAILS BECAUSE HE (JEAN) DOESN'T WANT ME TO KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY HE HAS. HA HA. IF I REALLY WANT TO KNOW I COULD JUST COUNT IT WHILE HE SLEEPS - HE TAKES QUITE A FEW NAPS - ONE AFTER BREAKFAST, ONE AFTER LUNCH, AND ONE AFTER SUPPER. ALL KIDDING ASIDE - HE USES HIS STASH TO PURCHASE LAWN MOWERS AND ETC. REBUILDS AND RESELLS. HE ENJOYS MAKING SOMETHING RUN THAT WOULDN'T.

I GUESS I WILL CLOSE THIS ONE. EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE OK HERE AT THE MOMENT. NEXT YEAR WE HAVE A LOT PLANNED FOR SPRING. WE WANT TO PUT GUTTERS ON THE HOUSE, PUT IN A SIDEWALK, LANDSCAPE THE FRONT AND BUILD A 24 x 30 GARAGE. ALSO, WE HOPE TO TRAVEL MORE NEXT YEAR.

IF THIS DOESN'T GET BACK TO ME BEFORE CHRISTMAS-
HAVE A HAPPY ONE. LOVE TO ALL FROM ELAINE DOWN TO ABBY.

Jan + Jean

11-3-95

Dear Family. -

Well its Friday Evening and its quite around here so thought I would get started on this, Betty is still down below helping son Richard after his surgery - talked with them a few minutes ago and all is coming along very well, thank God for his help and for all of your prayers, David is working and Chris is down the road playing with her cousin.

Richard got through his surgery on 10-27 in good shape, he had a ruptured disc in his lower back that probably started about 15 yrs. ago & when he and ^abuddy of his were changing an engine in a car, as they were moving it the engine slipped and he was trying to hold it up by himself and has had trouble ever since, the Dr. had planned 2 hrs. for the operating room and it only took 1 hr., he said Richard had 3 things going for him - he was young, he did not have an overly amount of fat around his spine and he did not bleed which helped everything go very well.

It looks like old man winter is getting ready to rear his ugly head, we woke up to about a 1/2 in of snow covering everything on this past tue., seems so cold and chilly
(over)

2

this yr. maybe my blood is just getting thin I don't know, the lady down the rd. is saying that Nickademas or somebody is saying we are going to have mountains of snow this winter but I don't think so - we have had quite a lot of rain this summer - we will know come spring I guess.

John - have not talked to you since I got back so I expect that your colonoscopy turned out alright and that you are healing well and having more relaxed BM's as the days go by.

Jim - glad to hear from you while we were down for surgery, I asked Mark if you and he had used your deer stakes yet and he said no, I don't think they would be very good by now, maybe he will get a fresh one this year.

Morty - hope everything is going well for you and yours - how is that new Grand child? isn't it nice to be able to see and enjoy and then leave when you want? do you carry any kind of insurance for a space cadet because that's what I feel like any more.

11-9-

Elaine - glad to hear that you are getting

3/

settled, hope this winter will be kind to you.
Sara is doing real well in Imlay City High,
she is the only Freshman on the school paper and
got the lead story the 1st. time out, her teacher
is quite proud of her.

Joe: you were asking the other day by phone
about the coyotes - They were just raising H.
a few minutes ago just over the fence 9:00 P.M.,
the rut is in full swing here for about a
week now - some strange bucks have come falling
into the back yard chasing does around -
one just about broke his neck getting over the
fence and landing in a tag alder bush, they
sure do some goofy things this time of yr.,
I don't think I will go out this yr. no sense
getting a bad cold.

Sis: Shalimar is a beautiful horse, glad to
hear he is doing so well in the showings, we
understand and were sorry about the mixup on
the Family Reunion, we all missed you guys
and got real concerned when you did not
show up I thought when we got home there
would be a message on the recorder, when
there was none we started to do some calling,
things will be better next time.

Jan: was so glad to see you down at the
hospital, Richard is improving daily he said
(over)

as soon as he came out of surgery he could feel the pain down his leg going away, he was so worried about the surgery, his 1st. time in the hospital and the Dr. telling him that he needed it done now or he might not walk again. I guess I can understand that, he will be off work for 2 months and it will be lean times but he is in much better spirits now.

Well I guess I have babbled on long enough so better close, David and Wayne are both working the afternoon shift at ITT in Escoda and are happy with thier job and Chris is doing well at Escoda ~~and~~ schools so everything concidered we are doing well.

Wishing for Gods blessing and good health for all of you and your Families and we hope all of you will have a joyful and Blessed X-Mas and New year.

All love. Frank & Betty

Nov 29, 1995

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It looks like the family letter has arrived again. It is also the season for deer, santa and bankrolling Uncle Sam.

As for deer a new record was set (102) deer seen down on the farm in 1995. I was also able to corral one buck out of three. I also set a second record by downing a porcupine loaded three pointer. There has ben ten taken so far in that area. This is 2 or 3 below normal.

As for santa he has a new nine inch snowfall to deal with along with four yesterday. I am so happy I do not have to worry about going to work in this kind of weather. Retirement (with) social security should be close to heavenly peace.

We have all ben free of sickness so far this winter. I firmly believe more sleep and exercise is the secret. The lowering of stress is also helpful.

Todds family recently got settled in Escanaba. This is the sun belt of the Upper Penninsula, or so they say.

Sis and Rog the horse picture is down right beautiful.

It looks like the farm house has ben abandoned for the fourth or fifth time. There sure has ben many memories left in that house even thought the outside has changed in appearance.

I will have to close for now and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With Love,

John, Pat and Family

Dec. 13, 1995

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I received the letters Saturday and since it is so good to receive them, I will send them right on. We are all well at this time except for Carolyn's cold. She seems to have a continuous cold during the winter months. I am sure that working with 50 little runny noses contributes to that.

I am keeping busy in retirement with a few odd jobs, working around the house and yard, and working with St. Vincent de Paul. It is so nice not to have all the stress. I will be very happy when Carolyn can retire.

I get over to see Meghan just about every day. It is nice having Karen & John next door. John is putting in long hours with Beaumont hospital's home care unit. He seems to enjoy it though. Karen is not working at this time but hopes to get a new job after the first of the year.

Mark & Sheila are expecting around April 20th. They say it will be a boy. Sheila was quite sick during the first three months but is doing better now. She was in the hospital a few days and then 9 days on a home IV.

We finished putting on the vinyl siding

on their house this fall and finished the front porch. It looks sharp.

Brian went in to work one morning and was told he was being transferred to Maryland. Within 3 weeks he was on the job in Maryland. He is at a naval air test center at Lexington Park. That is about 60 miles south-east of Washington D.C. He does not have enough work to keep him busy and there is no challenge so he is not real happy. We drove to see him and spent Thanksgiving with him. He will be home for Christmas and then fly to California for a wedding.

Jeff is taking final exams this week. He has one more semester to go and will graduate this spring.

Carolyn & I enjoyed the trailer this summer. We took it out 4 times ranging in time from 2 to 8 days each. The truck handled it well. We hope to go out of state with it next year. No plans yet.

We have only had 2 or 3 inches of snow so far but it has been bitter cold. They call for more snow this afternoon.

Well I better close and get this in the mail. God bless each and every one of you. Have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
Your loving brother
Jim & Carolyn.

12-15-95

HI SISTERS AND BROTHERS

JUST GOT THE LETTTERS THIS MORNING AND THOUGHT I BETTER GET THEM OUT RIGHT AWAY AS ELAINE IS GOING TO JANICE AND JEANS FOR CHRISTMAS AND MAY WANT TO TAKE THE LETTERS WITH HER. I AM SO GLAD THAT SHE WILL BE DOWN TO ROCHESTER RATHER THAN BEING SNOWED IN UP NORTH.

I TALK TO ELAINE SO MUCH THAT I DO NOT HAVE ANY GOOD NEWS FOR HER EXCEPT THAT ALYSSA WILL BE VISITING US FOR HER FIRST CHRISTMAS EVER. I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MUCH A PERSON CAN LOVE A GRANDCHILD.

I FELT LIKE CRYING THIS MORNING WHEN THIS LADY IN PANAMA CITY FOUND TWO BABY'S IN A BAG IN A BATHROOM . THEY WERE SO BEAUTIFUL AND THEY CALLED THEM MARY AND JOSEPH. ITS SO SAD.

JOE, YOU SEEM TO BE DOING QUITE WELL WITH RETIREMENT. I CAN'T WAIT. I AM SO ENVIOUS OF ALL YOU RETIREES.

SIS, THE PICTURE OF SHALIMAAR SHIRAH IS SO BEAUTIFUL. I JUST LOVE HORSES. ITS TO BAD THAT WE DID NOT HAVE MORE OF THEM ON THE FARM. ROGERS NEW JOB SOUNDS INTERESTING WITH THE CHURCH. GOD BLESS HIM FOR ALL HIS WORK.

JAN, YOU HAVE SOME AMBITIOUS PLANS AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. WISH I WAS CLOSER SO I COULD VOLUNTEER SOME EVENINGS.

FRANK, THOSE NEIGHBORS DOWN THE ROAD WHO SAID WE WOULD HAVE A LOT OF SNOW WERE SURE RIGHT. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH HERE BUT SOME OF YOU TO THE NORTH SURE HAVE MORE THAN THEIR SHARE. YOU ARE SURE LUCKY TO HAVE SOME OF THE KIDS AND GRAND KIDS SO CLOSE.

JOHN, I GUESS ALL YOU WILL BE DOING THIS WINTER IS SHOVELING SNOW. WE GOT A CARD FROM TODD AND WERE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THAT THEY WERE WAY UP IN ESCANABA. LETS HOPE ALL GOES WELL FOR THEM.

JIM, WE SURE HAVEN'T SEEN MUCH OF YOU GUYS. I THOUGHT THAT AFTER

YOU RETIRED THAT WE WOULD SEE A LOT OF YOU, BUT NO SUCH LUCK. YOU ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE MEGHAN SO CLOSE. IT WOULD BE BAD IF THEY DECIDED TO FIND A JOB SOMEPLACE ELSE NOW THAT YOU ARE SO CLOSE TO THEM.

WE ARE PLANING A TRIP TO MAUI ON MARCH 20TH. WE PLAN TO BE THEIR FROM THE 20TH TO THE 30TH. WE HAVE BEEN TO OAHU ABOUT 15 OR 20 YEARS AGO BUT NEVER TO MAUI. IT WILL BE A WELCOMED REST.

I HAVE BABBLED ON LONG ENOUGH. HOPE YOU ALL HAD A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. LOVE TO ALL.

GRANDPA MARTY AND GRANDMA SONDA

P.S. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO SET ON THE LETTERS FOR A MONTH OR LONGER, REMEMBER THAT YOU HAVE RELATIVES OUT THERE WHO ARE EAGER FOR THE NEWS SO PLEASE DON'T SET ON THEM. THANKS.

ALSO, PLEASE SEE PICTURE ATTACHED FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NOT SEEN IT, MOM AND DADS GRAVE HAS A NEW CROSS ON IT. HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?.

