

Jan 10, 201

Dear Families!!

Better get writing! Thanks for all your input, as usual I don't have any thing to say, being 96 yrs. doesn't help!

Life is pretty routine here, except for Jim and Carolyn, trips to several doctors. Jan & David have lots to do and I guess that as it should be, I'd say they are both in their prime of life. Thanks dear ones.

Right now Jean Marion is in the hospital. I think - I hate to bother Janice. Christmas was alone for me and I am used to chat say now. Hope yours was with the kids.

We had our first Big Snow this A.M. Right now all is "over," I hope for the drivers!

Keep up writing every one - its a nice way to keep in touch, we are all so far apart. God bless and keep you healthy.  
your old sister,

Gladys

Cadillac Mich  
Feb. 2016

Dear Family

I have delayed long enough so that we had the results of Jackie's ladder surgery and she said to tell you that it was good. Our walking isn't good enough for any thing but around the home place and Church & necessary shopping. The necessary maintenance gives our necessary exercise. No more long walks.

I have no visits from MOM nor do I expect any. She guided me to be always alert. Ask if you need help by mental request if needed.

My soil science education and life work tells me that our last Glaciers ended about 20 thousand years ago, this is like a blink in the age of the earth. Our weather problems are only changes with our own pollution changes the results some.

I salute our helpers with their aid to the ageing members. I only hope you will have the family members to aid you in your need time.

We have threatening weather now. Our family is doing well now as far as we know. All are finding work and <sup>in</sup> decent health. One of the grand sons even has of a 10 K raise soon.

Our prayers are going out for all of you every Sunday. Our Pastor is leaving for a medical required rest today.

Please begin your letters with some clue of who is writing it as well as the date. May our LORD bless each of ~~us~~ you.

~~Joe Joe~~ Time to quit

Love to all,  
Joe & Jackie

Mar 7 2016  
Bruce Family

Dear Dumont Family,

I'm writing for Mom again she keeps reminding me that I need to help her with those so I better get going.

We survived Christmas with Roy gone my brothers Jim Bill & neice & nephew Darlene (Bills daughter one of the twins & her husband Jeff) & David (Bills son & his wife Janai) helped stay, along as my boys Joshua & Josh, Josh's wife Jenica & granddaughter Zella (3 yrs) & I stayed a night with them too so Mom had lots of company for Christmas. It was wonderful to have them as I haven't had them both for Christmas for probably 15 years. I was a proud Momma with both my (Army) uniformed sons sitting on each side of me.

January was pretty quiet. Valentines my neice Jessica (Johns 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter) came & visited her grandma (sis) for a couple days & brought her a beautiful vase of flowers. March got here like a lion but we survived the snow. I had 2 snow days where I couldn't get out of my driveway to get to Moms to help them. Roy fills in, in times like that. We were glad we were able to make it to Uncle Jeans funeral sad also too. He will be missed.

We pray everyone is doing better ➡

And trusting the Lord to keep them God bless  
all

Here's a few lines from Mom

Hi Everyone Hope you are doing well  
I miss you all very much.

Love you  
Sus

From -  
Jan Marion

March 23, 2016

Dear Family -

A lot has happened since I last wrote. Burying Jean was a very hard thing to do. I have good days and bad days. Contact from family helps. Also having Vic and Rob next door is a big plus. Evenings are the worst.

Vic brought over a movie this A.M. called "Heaven Is For Real". If you get a chance - be sure you see it.

Betty - thanks for the nice long letter. John - It seems like your buddy kept less than half of his lottery winnings. Isn't that a shock of 5? Also, I believe the sharing should be to family - not the government.

Jim - of course Mom is watching over us. She is God's right hand woman.

Marty - The book "Into Oblivion" sounds like a (TRUE) story. I'll have to see if I can find a copy to read.

We can all be thankful for a mild winter. People our ages don't need the hassel of bad roads.

(sp.) My mind is a blank for anything to write about. I don't volunteer

2:

at the library anymore. I don't drive anymore and I don't want to have to make 2 trips to take me and then pick me up.

I do have 2 dogs that help some. they don't talk back but its nice to have them around.

I suppose as time goes on I may try more volunteer work - but as I said - it would mean someone to drive me both ways. Its only 3 miles but I hate to bother them.

I guess I'll have to take up a new hobby. Any suggestions?

Love to all -

Jan

APRIL 8, 2016

Dear family,

We received the family letter a week ago. Normally I would have responded already but it has been busy around here. We have had several doctor appointments, etc. which has kept us hopping. Mom is having a harder time standing now. She needs help and even then sometimes her knees give out. We are now back in the middle of winter it would seem. It keeps snowing every day and we now have a good 8 inches here in Mikado. At least the frost is gone from the ground so the snow keeps melting underneath otherwise we would have even more!

Uncle John, sorry to hear about your car having to be sold. Hopefully you got some decent money for it. It's amazing that the farm keeps turning out that many quality bucks every year! They must be doing something right. I didn't see much about Aunt Pat so I guess she must be doing ok. It would sure be nice to win a bunch of money wouldn't it? I don't think I'll ever get that lucky but you can't win if you don't try I guess. Did you get a lot of tomatoes last year?

Uncle Jim, glad to hear you and Aunt Caroline are not having too many problems lately. At least nothing major. That's really something about the six point in your back yard while Mark is driving up north to deer hunt. Isn't that the way it always seems to go? I bet Mark wasn't too happy about that! I have no doubt that Grandma is watching over all of us!!! Thank you for praying for us all.

Uncle Marty, what a small world we live in! Who would have thought that your friend's uncle would have married your aunt? What are the odds? "INTO OBLIVION" sounds like a great book! I hope your Florida trip is going well. Drive safe, have fun and watch out for those deer!

Thanks for the compliment about my typing. It's probably the only way anyone can read my writing.

Aunt Elaine, are you really 96 years young? WOW! We can all only hope that we are allowed to live that long. The changes you must have seen over the years. It would seem that you are doing as well as, or better than, the rest of us! Sorry to hear that you were alone at Christmas. Mom and I went to my brother Richard's for the holiday and she had a good time. We are glad to hear that you are doing so well!!!

Uncle Joe, we are glad to hear that Aunt Jackie's laser surgery went well. It's too bad that you can't take long walks anymore but ANY walking at all is great exercise for you. Mom wishes she could still walk! Thanks for the salute but none is necessary. This is what family is for.

Jan and Aunt Mary, it's good to hear that you had such a nice Christmas! It sounds like you had quite a houseful. I understand about the snow. Here it is April now and we just got another 8 inches with more in the forecast for the next few days. Please tell your mother that we miss her very much as well.

Aunt Janice, we are sorry we couldn't make it to Uncle Jean's funeral. Please

forgive us. I know what you mean by having a hard time without him. Mom still struggles with her loss as well and I suppose she always will. Having lots of family and friends definately helps. I think a new hobby would be great for you. Can you crochet or sew? I bet your grandkids would love to have you make them some things! Painting might even be a good idea. Anything to keep your mind busy. I think this letter is long enough now. I don't want to bore everyone! We look forward to hearing from you ll again soon. God bless you all.

Love, Betty and David

4-13-2016

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I received the family letter a couple of days ago from David & Betty.

It seems there is a little confusion in regards to a most recent windfall. A Rogers City man won 1.1 million on the state lotto. My dear friend (O. Boma) and all his friends - state & federal also got their share. The lotto winner received 600,000.

David I can not get over the very nice family letter you are sending out.

There is a great deal of new businesses going up this year in Alpena. Two hotels, RV store, Hardware store, map

Mikado even got on the <sup>map</sup> recently. It seems like a man from Mikado was caught working for the terrorist and the FBI was contacted, so close to home.

The tomato crop I had last year was a failure; I believe the nights were too cold.

It looks like each of us is having our share of health problems. We have to realize this comes with old age. I don't think any of us would like to go back on the farm again. Milking hoeing & coiling hay was the pits.

Like the rest of you, Pat & I are having walking problems. Winter weather is really taking its toll.

I wish Ma would tell us what it is like in Heaven. You know weather conditions, how everyone travels and on long lazy trips.

Not much is happening up here this time of year. I will close for now and may God Bless each one of you.

Your Loving Brother,  
John

June 1, 2016

Dear Brothers, Sisters, Nephews and Neices,

I am overdue getting this started but I can't blame it on health. I have been busy getting the garden ready and look forward to tasting some produce. The weather has been good.

Marty I will try to find the book "Into Oblivion". That is the kind of local history that I like to read. I will see if the library has it.

Elaine, we see you more than we see the others and it is a joy when we do. I am due to call you soon. Your health has been pretty good and it is nice when we can go out for dinner.

Joe and Jackie, we have talked on and off lately trying to get the papers going to the correct addresses but it seems to be getting better lately. Thanks for all your help.

Sis and Jan, it sounds like you have been real busy lately (at least Jan has been busy). Jan you have been a blessing for Sis and we thank you for all you do. We will try to get over to see you when we take Elaine for an appointment.

Janice, Thank you for the pages of family history you gave me. It has been helpful. We are sorry Karen is not doing well. We are praying for her. You are very blessed having Rob and Vicki next door. They are a great help.

David, you are also a blessing from God for your mother. I hope she is doing better standing. You are all in our prayers.

John, I agree with you that David is doing an excellent job writing the letters for his mom. I am sure it is an example of the fine job he does caring for her. John, I wouldn't mind paying the taxes if I could win that money. I guess I would cut the taxes down by donating the money to charities.

Marty, I received a notice for the class reunion. I will try to go if our health makes it possible. I am assuming that you plan to go. It is always good to see old friends.

Well I better close this up and get back to work. There is always plenty to do. God bless all of you. You are in my prayers.

Your loving brother  
Jim and Carolyn

From Marty

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Dear Families,

Not much going on here except long trips to Buffalo, Cleveland and Chicago, in the last few weeks. I made a wasted trip to Rochester Hills this week, but I made up for it and stopped to see Janice so it all worked out. Elaine, I love your penmanship, and I envy you for being able to write so well.

Joe, you are finding out that you can't run around the block like you used to do. God has a way of slowing us down so you are right on schedule. Glad to hear that Jackie's surgery went well. We are going to a class reunion in about three weeks and you don't know what you are missing. Even Roger Silverthorn showed up and a 1929 graduate flies in from California every year.

Sis, you are so lucky to have Jannie and David there to get you thru to touch times. God does watch over us. Its been three months since we got together but you looked great.

Janice, thanks for the tour of Rob and Vic's new home. It will be great to get it finished and to tear the old one down. Also for the new street and that should make your taxes go up. It was also good to see Chuck.

Betty and David, you wrote on April 8<sup>th</sup>. And that was the day after I got back to Michigan and I wondered what I had come back too. Next year I am not coming home till April 10<sup>th</sup>, and we will see how that works out. Sorry to hear that Betty is having trouble getting around. It is tough not to be mobile. She is so lucky to have you there with her, David. Also nice letter.

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NEXT PAGE.

John, hope the tomatoes will be better this year. We turned our garden into a flower garden and planted tomatoes, cucumbers and etc. in large pots by the house. Your buddy Obama wants to let the radicals in and then they can kill every one, which is no skin off his butt. I think he has friends in ISIS. Even Mikado has one or two. The locals down in Florida complained all winter about it being cold and they walked around in jackets, but I thought it was excellent. By April my blood was thinning out.

Jim, do we talk very often or what. Nothing new here. Was anyone able to find the book, INTO OBLIVION? I bet the Alcona library has a few copies. I will be at the reunion and I know your health will not let you down. You should join the set up committee as you are so good at that stuff. Hope your garden is producing well. I will stop in and check on it next week. Driving will be down this summer, as the dealer found out how to get the auctions to deliver the cars for free. Any way to save a buck.

Guess I will get out of here and get this ready to send to Elaine. Bye all.

Love  
Louise & Marty

July 13, 1920

Dear Families:

This is it - hot and sweet!!

It's hotter than I can recall!

Don't see much of anyone we know -  
Joyce Martin daughter Denise got over here  
occasionally.

Don't have any brother-in-laws now - Jan  
is not too available - it's deffecient!

I'm pretty well - my brain is open  
for business most days. and I thank God!  
but don't give up the letters to family. We  
know we need them, Thanks Jan!

Our water is shut OFF this A.M. I  
must remember!!

Thanks to Jan Paulette and David for  
your <sup>ing</sup>replying. Nothing to write about for  
me.

all I can say - Please keep up the  
letters! Love & God bless one and all!

Sister Elaine Grace  
Winthrop!

Sept. 6, 2016  
~~1977~~

Cadillac, Mich.

Dear Gandy:

I was planning to answer your letters seven weeks ago when all was going well. I awakened with a traumatic event. I couldn't get up. I was unable to move my head without trying to faint.

We spent 6 of 7 hours in the ER. They tried every thing - I was dehydrated but nothing was wrong. They thought I must be dehydrated from the hot weather. I lost 6 pounds and it stayed off. With a later MRI I am still not very stable and can't write worth a penny. I am showing my age. Elaine I checked your letter which was dated 1920 which is quite a prediction.

~~It's~~ the first day of school and the trees are trying for fall colors and leaf dropping.

Elaine neither you or I are going to reach 1920. I am being treated for a left ear infection which is very reluctant to leave. I move slow and nap often. please pray for me and mine.

These letters went missing for a couple of weeks. Finally found them today in our fire safe. Oh well! Its great getting old.

Our great-granddaughters turned 4 yrs.  
on Sept 2. They had a "tea party" — were  
all dressed up.

Mandy had a boy in April. His name  
is Max, our eighth great-grandchild.

Take care! Have a good rest of  
the year.

Love,

Jae & Jackie

Oct 29, 2016  
Duce Family

Dear Dumont Family

Hope everyone is well. Mom is doing good but she still has her good & bad days.

Doug & I have moved in with mom & Michelle since June 30<sup>th</sup>. We started moving in March but there was alot to clear & clean in the upstairs so we could, move in. We've also done alot of work to the house yard & deck. Everything needed to be worked on. We still have a lot of work ahead of us, but we got alot done too.

Mom's seems very grateful. Michelle seems alot calmer since we've moved in also.

Summer was very busy, got a lot of brush cleared out from around Mom's house. Dad was the gardener & I was the weeder but he kept the lawn manicured. That's Doug's job now he does pretty good. We put a new walkway in for the front of the house. We raised it up a few inches so her front step wasn't so high she had trouble getting up it. We re-did the landscaping around it & got rid of all the scrub bushes & weeds.

I also re-did her deck furniture made new cushions & painted the metal chairs & tables. She really enjoys sitting on the deck now I painted part of the house by the deck just to make it all look nice.

My Joshua is out of the army now & living across the street in my twin brother John's house. He's already got a good job.

My Jonah is also getting out of the army on a medical & he & his wife Glenice & daughter Zella will be moving home Jan. or Feb. It will be so nice to have them all near since they've been gone so long.

Doug & I got a weekend away to his brother's house in Canton Ohio, we had a nice time. My brothers & sister-in-laws & Joshua were all very gracious to stay with Mom & Michelle while we were gone.

We all still get out a few times a week to lunch or breakfast (it's her therapy). She likes to watch the birds on the feeder & she still likes to read. She's slow but she still gets around pretty good with her walker & cane. Her memory is still the same but we keep praying all things work together for good.

Thanks to all for cheering us on, we'll do the same back. Pretty soon we'll decorate again for Christmas. This year flew by. Take care of yourselves. God Bless you & your family. I'm doing very well. Hope you ~~are~~ doing well too. Love you all and miss you.

Love Sis

12-13-16

Dear Family: -

Our letters took eight months to make the rounds this time. I'm glad we make the effort to keep in touch - I would hate to see us all die off without knowing each other as we age. We do have snow for Christmas - about 5 inches.

John - I'm very surprised about a Mikado man working for the terrorists (sp) did he get put away for a very long time?

Speaking of the farm - I used to hate to go to school with cow milk under my fingernails. It seemed hard to get all the farm smells off.

The temp. is in the teens today. Way to cold for me. Even the dogs make very brief trips outside. I just let Smokey out the front door - then back in & then wants out back. I guess dogs don't grasp that it's the same temp. out either door. Boy I am sure grousing for things to write about. At least I get a little exercise letting them in and out.

Elaine, I wish I could go visit those of you that are fairly close by - but that means asking one of my clan to drive me. Nuts. At least goodness we have phones for an occasional chat.

As you can see - I can't hardly write anymore.

(over)

Joe - did you get to the bottom of  
your light headedness? I know we  
all tend to come up short on our water  
intake. I just got up and drank  
about 6 oz's while it's on my mind.

Joe - when I stop to think about it -  
I wonder how many of us will be  
around in 2025?

Sis - its wonderful you have Jan + Doug  
with you. I know what its like to  
see things needing to be done and  
you hate to ask for help. Thanks goodness  
we both have family members to help.  
What do elderly folks do when they  
don't have family willing to help?

It's 12:30 and lunch time. Time to close.  
Also so good to have Vick and Rob next  
door. I really don't like living alone  
but I'm trying to adjust.

Keep writing (all of you). It's always  
good therapy to receive and read  
the letters. Its a practice all families  
should participate in.

Much love and Happy Holidays  
to all.

Much love and prayers

Jan M.