



*Your  
Thoughtfulness  
meant much more  
than any words  
can say.*

*I*

Dear Aunt Helen & Uncle John,

Thank you very much.

Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation for your thoughtful and support. It meant a great deal to us. We know how much you care about Bertie, and she also felt the same about you. I know you share in our loss and sorrow.

We also appreciated your generosity. Thank you.

With all our love,  
Linda, Kristen,  
Rob and Bob

Can you  
believe it!  
A letter!

Dear Aunt Helen,

Just a note to let you know how much I appreciate your always being there for me. Please know that even though I don't write, you're often in my thoughts.

I know you would have been there for Bertie's services, but your staying with us through afternoon and evening at the wake and then for the funeral really helped us all get through it. You have always been a source of strength. When I think back of the years, you have always been there to help me through and I appreciate it so much. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I really wish we didn't live so far apart. I would really like to get together more than a couple of times a decade. Unfortunately, I don't usually get much time off from work. Two weeks "vacation" time doesn't give much time to see everyone each year. I have taken off at Christmas each year for the last several years to spend the holidays with the kids. That doesn't leave any "vacation days" to get away.

Well, things are settling into a routine here. Rob has been working at the grocery store during the summer but quit recently. He is

going to bus tables at "Steak and Ale" restaurant starting this weekend. School starts this week so he's going to be pretty busy. Bob bought him a car just before we were up to NJ. It's a Ford Escort GT ('89 I think) white, 5 speed. He's been driving everywhere. Makes me a nervous wreck — will add a few more gray hairs — like I need more of them! He's been behaving and getting home by curfew. If I could just get him to stop smoking!

Kristen has been getting ready to start life in Galveston. Bob and Kristen moved most of her things to her apartment July 15<sup>th</sup>. She will be staying there in another week or so. Orientation is the 25<sup>th</sup> of August (Dad's birthday!) and classes start that Monday. Kristen and I will be going down this weekend. I've not been down there yet. So we will check out the area and shop.

Bob has been working a side job here for one of John's (Kristen's boyfriend) customers. We've had a few disagreements but we'll find a compromise. It's amazing — all these years I have managed quite capably — but he knows how everything should be done and it's always his way is right. I think he has taken some lessons from Dad! Do as he says, when he says it has to be done motto.

Sorry this is scribbled. I rarely write anything but a check so I get writers cramp really fast. Also I'm sitting outside the rec center at 9<sup>30</sup>pm waiting for Kristen to finish working out. She's inside jogging on a treadmill I'm sitting on my fat ass outside. It's beautiful out tonight. It's cool and there's a lovely breeze. I just need a seat. I've been sitting on a pipe railing and it's very uncomfortable.

I'm still working temp. assignment for IBM. Unfortunately they have a hiring freeze. I have to find out about getting some health insurance that won't cost me my full paycheck. That's the biggest problem. Taking a pay cut - and no health insurance. But I am relieved I am not at the law firm. At first I really liked it. But I was under so much stress and worked 10-12 hour days. I don't think I could have kept it up much longer without it seriously affecting my health. I was so stressed that by the time I got home I couldn't eat or sleep. I'd be tossing & turning at 130am and couldn't get my body to relax. So I guess it really was a blessing that they let me go. At least I can collect unemployment if I need to. But so far I haven't had to file. I had 3 days that I didn't work after we got back from NJ and I was paid by

The law firm through the end of July. So the money I've earned for the 11 days I worked at IBM is extra for the month. Which, considering I took a pay loss, will help cover some of the loss - but not nearly 1/5. - But that's OK. I'd rather do what I'm doing now than what I was doing at the law firm.

So how is everyone doing? I hope y'all are in good health. How's your Aunt's elbow? Maybe one of these days you could get away for a weekend & fly down - that jet has a good price - \$99-169 ea way. Newark to Pkw. Or maybe we could "escape" somewhere for a weekend that they fly to.

How's Nancy, Emily, Patti, John, Maryan, & Uncle John? Please give them all my love. When will you be heading to Florida again? How long do you stay there?

Well, I better get this in the mail. Again, thank you for everything.

I miss you.  
Love  
Linda