

Dear Bill and Petsy,

8/3/96

This is our 54th anniversary. I'd invited the McKnights to go to Dutch's Daughter with us for lunch there today and then Barb learned what - always forget, that they are closed for lunch Saturday only. ^{We went yesterday} We enjoyed it, as e did last year when we did the same thing, but when we left I was a bit pressed for time. One of my medications, iron for the kidneys (anemia) must be taken no less than an hour after eating and not less than two hours before eating again. I was getting too close on the second one so all I did was in a rush. I took it as soon as I could and then, in haste, got to the mail. What was, it would seem, ^{had} a combination of impossibilities, ~~was~~ ^{is} in it, as I explain.

There was a letter to ~~us~~ ^{us} from the Hale orchard. It seemed bulky so I thought it was some advertising. After I slit the envelope open I saw that the letter to ~~us~~ was never sealed and ^{it} sticking to it, making it look like a single mailing. ^{was} the enclosed letter to you. I never remember anything like that happening in mailings, one stuck to another like that, and I was simply astounded to see that it was the letter to you that was stuck to the letter to us. I've only skimmed it because what happened down there was apparent immediately. Here is the background on it.

You may remember that this past winter a neighbor who would take no pay kept out lane clear of snow. Once when the snow was still deep but the lane clear he and his wife stopped off as they were going shopping to see if we needed anything. I do not remember whether they did something for Lil then or not but I did have a few of those special tangelos left and I gave them the two largest we had. Next time I saw the wife I asked her how ^{she} liked them. She ^{said} she did not get a taste, that he'd eaten both! So, that suggested to me that sending them a box would be welcome and would reflect our appreciation. I phoned Hale, they gave us credit and the box was shipped.

Then I remembered the nephew ~~who~~ had, when he could in previous years, sent a crew to clear the lane and last summer ~~sent~~ a crew to put a coat of sealer on the lane. (After that winter it needs more this summer.) So, we sent him a box of them. That suggested that we would feel better if we did something like that for the ~~same~~ ^{same} cousin who takes ^{so} much time from his part of the business he and his brother own, their Pontiac dealership, to drive us to Johns Hopkins. It was Lil's prompt payment for the latter that they made a mistake with at Hale's. They phoned about it, Lil sent them the cancelled check, and the letter to ~~us~~ was an ~~apix~~ apology for that. They said they'd credited it to the wrong account. Which it ~~now~~ seems was your account! Probably because they connect us to you through your gifts to us.

That may have been because they looked me up in their computer when I asked them about sending the box of tangelos to the neighbor. When they checked their computer they found us in it through you. Whether or not it is their standard practise, until they did that they did not say they would extend us credit. I'd phoned to learn how much to send them and they offered to ship and then bill us. Which we accepted because we wanted those tangelos to be what was sent.

Jerry, who had a high opinion of Waketh, asked me for a copy of the American Prospects article I used in it. He's mislaid the copy I gave him long ago. In making the copy for him I made one for you. It also is enclosed. When you are in touch the Gerry and Dennis, if you do not mind, you might ask if they'd like a copy.

I've just finished reading and correcting the manuscript, Picturing ~~the~~ Corruption of the JFK Assassination, what I wrote about the two terrible Groden books. As I expected and indicate in the manuscript, he and Viking are being sued over his thievery. And he can't even steal straight! So, perhaps there may be some use for that writing. When she'd made ^{my memo} the corrections in ^{it} this I'll give her ~~that~~ to retype. Honorable Men.

I also have to find time to go over what I did not find until after I "finished" with Honorable Men, what I'd done long ago, was on a diskette I do not remember how, that I'd given Jerry to get printed out so he could use it. It took the people at Hood more than a year to get to it! He liked parts very much and with it returned that part of the rough draft. Which I now have to go over and see if any part of it should be incorporated. And then find the missing chapter of the rewrite!

Now to lunch. With apologies and with thanks,

8/4. Jerry mentioned Waketh again at lunch Friday. Whatever you did to it helped, so thanks. Ditto for Gerry when he was here. He began the extra searching they'll be doing for their book with some notes of Jerry's on suggestions I made for him on his coming book. ^{Gerry} He may have some interesting documents for you. Dennis plans to come. Jerry offered him accommodations. He'll do more digging. Jerry's book is on the executive sessions. He has finished with his book on King's Poor Peoples Campaign. Best,