

Dear both,

10/18/80

Congratulations on your good news, of which I'd informed me promptly.

I've just come off the longest loaf of my many post-puberty years and I've got much readjusting to do - including starting to walk all over again.

It lasted a month, almost all in bed.

The arterial surgery was a great success but the day I was discharged a bunch of crud broke loose and went down in the left leg and foot. They went in the lower end of the new plastic artery, from groin to knee, and dug out all they could reach. What was below the ankle was beyond reach. It causes discomfort and may well provide further limitations as long as I live. It is under attack from medication and so. The anti-coagulants may rid me of some of the smaller crap and I just hope for the rest. The foot is numb and it remains to be seen whether the oxygen starvation can be overcome.

I walk frequently but briefly. When I finish this I'll learn if I can go more than 200 steps, yesterday's mark, without pain.

Here's how I watched the series last night and will this p.m. I sit with legs horizontal until the end of a half inning, when I walk around the house. Then I rest the legs for the first batter. With the second I try to bend the stiff and reluctant toes. Then I rest another batter and if there is a fourth I put the <sup>legs</sup> ~~legs~~ down and work the foot up and down.

No post-op pain killers were necessary and none of the present discomforts are intolerable. It will take time to get over a month in bed (save for brief periods of shuffling around while manipulating an electrical, multi-armed intravenous gadget) and to work out what can be worked out. I've been given to understand that when winter sets in and I take what precautions are possible I'll be lucky to be able to spend 10 minutes at a time outside. So, I've got to figure out ways of coping with that. Besides, I've enjoyed outside work much too much to merely forget it.

Hope you are engaged in getting on the air soon. Thanks and our best,

10/8/80

My Dear Hal:

Spoke to Lil just yesterday and found out where you were vacationing!

Now listen here young man...a week or so is one thing, but extended days in hospital (any hospital) are definately not in the Guide Michelin.

So - get better and get home and with a charmer like your bride about, I wouldn't take too long!

Seriously good friend, feel better, mend quickly and know that our prayers are with you.

Best

Art & Jodi