

Dear Bill,

1/31/98

We both enjoyed your 1/28 while driving on errands. Got home tired, decided to try to use what we were given, a cellular phone, and can't make it work! It is in working condition but we have not yet mastered the instructions. So Lil is now reading them to see if she can figure out what ⁺ was doing that was wrong. (Couldn't)

What happened is that I wanted our nephew to know what our situation is in the event I'm hospitalized. Lil would then be alone and in danger if she should fall.. The nephew, Lil's order sister's son, visited for a while, something that, now that he is a grandfather, he has not done in years. Then he left. We were surprised the next day when the one of his sons we seen infrequently come in with a box. It held this Motorola cellular phone. Batteries in and charged, ~~it~~. It is programmed so that if Lil were to push the 1 that would get her to the 911 number immediately, which is great if we need it. But I think we'll have to get the great nephew to come over and give us a lesson in what lunkheads do without any problems. Don't know anyone else who has the phone. Of course, we can go to where he got it, with the salesman's card in the box. I'll see what Lil says about that.

This nephew's mother and father split up early. ^{Mitchell} He became a friend of mine. We used to go fishing together, with a case of beer for company, when I was up this way. Tried to be as much of a father to the boy when he was 5-6 and growing as I could. We came up every weekend to get the groceries, etc, for Lil's mother, who was raising the boy and who took care of her aged and unwell father. We drove into ^{Redevick} with Frankie and any of his friends he wanted to take and it was safe for kids then. Downtown then was downtown and always busy.

Once when he was quite small he needed a nose operation which his mother had in Washington. I kept him for a week. No problem. I doubt he remembers that. He was maybe 8-9 when we moved up and started our own place. He would bring Lil fish he'd caught ready for the pan, frogs legs also ready, etc.

His father's father and his mother's mother were and remained friends. They used to come around for Sunday dinners with us. Successful dairy farmer. He and I were also good friends.

Frankie is now a successful businessman. He and a friend bought into and in the end owned a paving service for which they worked. Frankie now owns it.

It has grown on its fine reputation and it is now a family enterprise. The son who brought us the phone, bought it, I'm sure, with Frankie telling him to and paying for it, has a trucking business that works with the paving business. To make a long story short, Frankie has a job for all in the family who want to work for him. One of his grandsons after two years of college decided against continuing and the second one, his brother, who'd hope to go to Penn State ^{when} last

I'd spoken to him, wrestling scholarship and a good running back in high school, also decided against going to college. They are both working for Frankie. As is their mother, one of his two daughters who are the office. And the father of those two boys, who was hurt on the job and screwed out of compensation by the government, is more than just useful seeing to the records.

They are all doing well in every way. And we think it is wonderful, this throwback to the way it used to be, a family enterprize that is a family enterprize. We also think there is another part of it that is simply wonderful.

Frankie's wife, Suzie, had a stroke. She ^{had} had to keep her left arm in a sling and is in some ways limited. The kids were all young then. They raised them all despite her handicap. I doubt if the oldest was 10 when she had that stroke. But they are all happy and successful and parents. We haven't seen most of them in so many years I'd not know them if I saw them. They stay to themselves in the family and there are enough of them for that! We are a different generation and they did not see us for years. So we are strangers to most of them.

Thanks for telling me the oranges are coming. I'll be glad, too!

Last year I sent some from Hale to some of those who were thoughtful toward us, including Frankie and the cousin who takes us to Johns Hopkins and the neighbor who, if he can't get to work, plows out lane to keep it open for us. (If Frankie can do it, he sends one of the boys to do that, too.) But Lil told me we have to be more careful. That was because of what I'd not realized because she could then walk better and picked the medicines up. One a month when they cost less, they were costing \$750.00 or more!

I should explain that Frankie's business is in the country toward Washington from here, so his equipment is not here when it snows. ^{the men} If one gets clear ^{enough snow} he send ^a the truck with a plow on it. This year we've not had ^{enough} to require plowing.

Anyway, it was an emotional moment for me when this grandfather's second son walked in with that phone, which we did not expect, and first think last Saturday morning because I'd told Frankie I was going over to Bell as soon as I could so that Lil would not be without some security, protection. Bell is 10 minutes away.

Betsy should get at least a new car for what she did in that case! Bravo!

There is something not that unlike the Moorer story in the second epilogue to Waketh, which I think you have. Jerry retyped it but the necessary corrections do not make it incomprehensible. What I wrote about General Butler, that Jerry found Swiftian, as in Jonathan.

We thought Hillary was great. She turned it all around. There is now talk, as there should be and would be more of if the media was not so corrupt, of

Starr's excesses. It is more than Starr. It is that GOP panel of judges who fired the previous Republican special counsel and appointed this ideologue. If Clinton had not been a bad boy this will kick the GOP and the radical of the more radical right where they deserve to be kicked. I think that Starr's refusal to give Lewinsky immunity means he knows she is not a perjurer and he would rather not be saddled with her as his witness. Ginsburg is playing the right kind of hardball, announcing, from radio news today, that she will go to California next week to visit with her father. *(His real client.)*

It happens that we saw Hillary on the Today show and we thought she was fine, in every way. Especially with that slap at the radical right. If the economy holds up and the Asian banking disaster does not come here I think these excesses, this nastiness, will hurt the Republicans.

Who, as traditional Republicans, have almost disappeared. If they haven't. To those you refer to as those she had in mind, you should add the major media, all of it. The papers have been giving it much attention, out of proportion, and what should get attention doesn't. Example: Kissner who was before the grand jury yesterday. When he came out and was used live, that he called it a witch-hunt and why was aired. But not thereafter. He had a good witch-hunt case. He had phoned the Democratic Party where Tripp lives to thank them for talking about having her prosecuted because ~~she did~~ ^{she did} break the law in Maryland. It requires that both parties agree to tape a phone conversation. The next day he is before the grand jury! That means it was wired in by Starr.

I did not finish telling you that I'm glad to know the oranges are coming because I'll not load up on commercial citrus now. I do most of the buying in the early mornings when I walk in the supermarket and I do the peeling in the early morning so that when Lil gets up all she has to do is eat what is ready for eating. And those tangelos ~~are~~ ^{are} great!

If it has not reached you by the time you get this, Jerry sent you a copy of his book. The publisher sent one to the alt. Sun. ^{Jerry} ~~he~~ did a fine job. And UK should have it in its King Library.

Thanks for the pocket calendars. I use one on the desk, adding a new one each year. I can go back four years or more for a date and can go ahead when that is needed, as I cannot with the big calendar that gives me the days of that month that I have facing me on the wall. So for that, too, thanks.

I did not hear of that Phila. degaussing experiment and I agree with Betsy about that magnificent place, Mount Vernon. I used to go there by boat summers evenings in the 1930s.

was just there in the 1920s Thanks and our best,

Heard