

April 25, 1981

Dear Jim:

I hope this finds you well and able to keep up with the very busy schedule you have arranged for yourself.

This won't be much of a letter. The reason for my writing instead of Harold is that he is again in hospital, having been taken in last Monday evening on an emergency basis. Fortunately, Dr. Hufnagel was available within a very short time and he was taken into surgery around 11 p.m., emerging at 2:30 a.m. He says the doctor described the happening as a "profound systemic insult."

What happened is that he was active all day Monday, we went shopping then to dinner, and came home planning to look at the baseball game which was being telecast from Chicago. About 15 minutes after we got home, he decided to lie down to look at the game; a short while later he asked that I call his doctor, who happened to be out of town. I then called the doctor who was taking Dr. Hickey's calls, and he suggested that Harold come into the office so he could take a look at him. When Harold proposed driving there, I suggested that he ask a neighbor to take him, which he did. By the time the neighbor got here, about 20 minutes after being called, Harold couldn't walk; so we called the Doctor back and asked if he should go into the emergency room at the local hospital; fortunately, he said no, that Harold should check into Georgetown Hospital. So that is where he is.

The new surgery was at the point where the artery splits to feed the lower leg; it apparently was flaking off and was scraped out and the clots which had broken loose and were cutting off circulation to the leg were removed. He now is regaining feeling in the leg, its color is better, and so is his outlook. He has had no pain. He feels weak, which is understandable, and complains that he falls asleep easily and rapidly during the day, which interferes with his sleep at night. I saw him last night. He looks good and says he feels good. He is now talking about coming home, but I doubt very much if he'll be released for at least another week.

This is about all I can tell you. I've written Dave and Elaine and various other people and still have a few more I have to get to.

Take care of yourself and give our best to Elizabeth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "Lil".