

16 June 1977

Dear Lil:

Scarcely had I written the enclosed note to Harold than I went up to get the mail and here were your two letters of the 12th.

"And they are beautiful letters," said Jennifer when I read them to her. She enjoyed them so much and so deeply appreciated your thought in writing them. She asked me especially to get this thank you note off to you tonight.

In the meantime things are moving rather fast. Late today her GP and one of the ~~Nursing~~ Hospice nurses came by and more or less acknowledged they haven't yet figured out a way to control her pain on the present basis of operation. This means she probably will be going back to the hospital within the next few days for further tests and evaluation of her actual condition, only symptoms of which can be discerned here. They also are concerned that I am nearing the end of my rope when it comes to doing everything that needs to be done for her. Food is a special problem, as there are so few things she can bear the thought of eating. (That's not likely to improve in the hospital, actually, but there are ways of feeding her there which are not available here.)

Anyway, our beautiful month together is nearing an end, as all things must, and we are reluctantly in agreement that she should go back where the technical base for caring for her is better staffed and equipped. Her condition is not improving, if it is not actually deteriorating, and there is no way of knowing what they are dealing with until they get her back where they can do the necessary things to find out. Meanwhile there is the prospect that in the hospital it will be easier to gain the pain control everyone seeks for her.

Going back will mean I will be spending most of my time with her, and only minimally here at home. I'll try to let you know when I can be reached and will try to do a better job of keeping you and other people informed.

Thanks again for your kindness and loving thoughts, for both of us.

Sincerely,



jdw