

August 26, 1994

Dear Laura and Mary:

Here it is the end of August and I just realized I don't have my September birthday remembrances out. Being on a mission entitles you to get a little Birthday money, too, so spend the enclosed twenty-five bucks to get a souvenir of your mission or something. That should be OK for Laura as twenty five dollars will go a lot farther in Ecuador than it does in Japan. Oh well, Mary, maybe you can get a Big Mac. Betsy said it was OK to send cash to Mary, but I wouldn't dare do that in Ecuador. I will hold her letter until Dan and Sherlene get back from the Shakespearean Festival in Cedar City, probably tomorrow.

During our experiences with Japanese scientists, who are great gift givers, (which leaves you wondering what YOU can give them,) We have had some small gifts that were nice, but I'm sure didn't cost that much. For instance, a wooden man and woman (faces very simply painted on) and a lovely jewel case about 5 inches by four inches, of a red brocade, which I love, and several colorful silk scarves.

In September, 1972, the Lord sent two of his very choice daughters to our families, and what a joy they have been to all of us. *(you, two)*

We are planning a Hall family reunion around Thanksgiving, 1995. You will all be home, as well as Robert, so the only Missionary in the Field will be Michael, who will probably go next spring.

This has been a re-decorating year. I went into Zion's upholstery and sitting in their showroom was just the couch I wanted. So after consulting your grandfather, we bought it. That was like buying a hat and not having anything to go with it. Then we got a new rug and I have ordered some new curtains. Then we will need a new chair for grandpa. We put a good piece of the old gold carpet from the living room in the downstairs middle bedroom, and took the bunk beds apart and put them as separate beds. This necessitated moving some of the furniture in that room out to the farm, as that is a small room. While the furniture was out of the room, we repainted it and now it looks better.

We are also repainting the walls at the farmhouse, up and down, and we moved the couch from the basement to the farmhouse and the couch from the upstairs to the basement. We still have the south apartment at the farm to paint and then we will be through hopefully.

It has been a long, hot summer. the weather has been 100 and over most of the time. Grandfather has been working under those conditions at the farm, and has survived. We got him a phone to carry in his pocket, so I can get in touch with him when he is on the lower 40 and he can get in touch with me or 911 if he has a problem.

We love you both and we are so proud of you. Mark is home and gave a splendid talk at his welcome home. He looks good. He and Michael will go to Utah State University the end of September. Uncle David is still getting his presses fixed, but they think they have finally solved the problems. We hope.

Love, Grandmother and Grandfather Hall