

[Marilyn's handwriting in green ink on folded typing paper]

August 19, 1970

Dear Folks,

How would you like a little 82% humidity? That's what we've got today, plus temperature in the 80's, too. If sweating is good for you, we should be in pretty good shape.

We are waiting for it to get dark enough so Bill's 40 candles will really show up. I baked a chocolate cake in the loaf pan, and then, convinced the kids that Daddy would like it better left in the pan so the frosting would be thicker. (Also easier to do and to store.) He had to wait until I got home from work for his presents. Got a pencil sharpener and a combination checker and Chinese checker set. He got 3 cards from Bickleton and 2 said he's missed.

Last Sunday Bill preached in Polo, Illinois and we decided it would be better if the kids didn't go along, so I tried to find someone to stay with them. Couldn't get anybody, so we decided they could take care of themselves. Bill got them up at 7:30 a.m. before he left and I had left them a check-list to follow. They walked 7 blocks to Sunday School. Then, came home, and waited until 11:30 when they came over to the hospital and ate dinner with me in the cafeteria. And talk about luck!! They had deep fried shrimp for the main course and strawberry pie for dessert. All 3 kids about went into orbit. They were so excited about the whole adventure, especially the girls, and attracted plenty of attention just by being there. They were real good. The most unbelievable part of the whole thing was the price; \$3.09 for the 4 of us.

When I came home from work on Saturday I heard something that didn't sound like the radio and sure enough, we had a TV set. Bill had heard an ad on the radio, "One, only - G.E. 12 inch portable, \$60." He went down and it was still there. We decided if they can watch TV on Saturday and eat at the hospital on Sunday, they won't need anyone to stay with them for very long, and with the money saved on sitters we could surely spend for a TV set.

We celebrated our anniversary early, last week. Went out on Wednesday night because I had Thursday off. Got a high school girl we met while living at 4-C McCormick Extension to stay with the kids that night. We had Chinese food and went to a movie. On the real day, Bill gave me a half dozen carnations and I made him a blueberry pie.

I'm "in charge" at work tomorrow. We don't have very many patients and I sure hope it stays that way. I'm not expecting to sleep too well tonight.

The girls and I got our hair cut at the Beauty School yesterday. Yvonne got a pixie with bangs and looks real cute. Karen's isn't quite that short.

Love,
Marilyn