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54/07/30 Marilyn's Last Letter Tells Of Joy Over Expected Baby

Cleveland News

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Marilyn's Last Letter Tells Of Joy Over Expected Baby

The following is a letter, believed to be the last written by Mrs. Marilyn Sheppard, to her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Brown. Her aunt and uncle, who live in East Cleveland, were visiting in Tennessee. It was written on July 1, three days before her mysterious death.

It reads as follows:

WEDNESDAY

Dear Mary and Bud,

Sorry I didn't get to say goodbye to you—can't remember where we were.

Guess where I am now? I'm at 1861 "Grandpa sitting." Carol has gone to lunch with one of her friends — went to the Alcazar I guess. Chip and I got here about noon and Carol said she'd be back about 3. I fixed lunch. H. P. had a 4 min. egg, bread with honey, an apricot and milk. Ate every bit. Chip and I had cold meat sandwiches, milk, cookies, hard boiled egg — C — banana — me prunes. H. P. said he would nap (it's 2:10 now) but he's talking now so if this is rather incoherent it's because I'm chatting too.

(H. P. is Marilyn's grandfather).

Sounds like you are baking—I read your three letters (where's mine?). I wish we could have come down but Sam has really been busy lately. We have had wonderful weather—quite cool. A little cool for swimming and we don't like that. Looked like rain when we drove over but now the sun is out.

Chip Playing Outside

Chip is playing with the kids next door in their back yard. Paul has shorts on and I think his legs are fatter than mine.

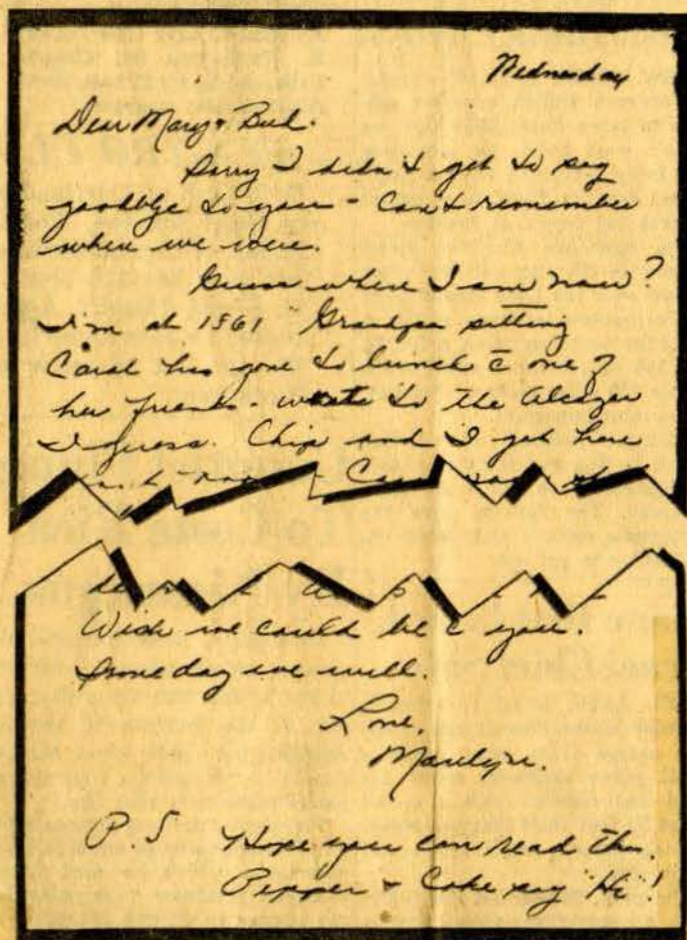
Funny Mrs. — — — never showed up. Are you sure she understood the date? I guess they are getting along alright tho: H. P. looks quite good and I think his voice seems quite strong.

We are going to the stock car races with Otto and Bev tonight. After their program we'll meet them. We are taking Chip and they are taking Duey. Otto is a bug on racing.

(Otto and Bev are Otto Graham, Cleveland Brown's quarterback, and Beverly, his wife).

The Bay folks you know are all fine. Roger is a daily visitor and has been cutting our lawn. He spent a week at Camp Perry. The High School sent him to Boy's State. I forget what office he held.

I have been playing golf twice a



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LETTER

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week at North Olmsted. I really love it but Sam thinks I'm insane and should be home working.

Going to Have Baby

Hold your hats—some news. If all goes well you should be aunt and uncle again in December. I'm sure maybe you guessed as I have put on weight—but I wanted to wait to tell people as long as I could as it makes the time seem shorter. Still sounds long tho.

Did you guess? Some of the family—in fact most don't know yet. Guess I should tell H. P. today. Maybe it will perk him up. Maybe! I don't want Chip to know yet as I can just hear the questions so we'll wait a while for that. After 7½ yrs. I'll really have to begin all over again. I need so much stuff, but can borrow a lot. You'll have to bone-up with my baby book as we'll really need a baby sitter. How's that for a bombshell exploding in the middle of your vacation? I'm surprised too to tell the truth. I just told H. P. and all he said was "No!" Ha.

The house is very neat and clean and H. P. says Carol is very good to him. Runs errands, etc. Said they had lamb chops for dinner & they were good. She really is very nice.

Plan Luncheon Date

I'm in the middle of arranging a luncheon at Stouffer's Westgate next Tuesday for the Auxiliary to get the new officers installed. I'll go out as President, and Dorothy takes over. It's all hers—I'm glad to be through.

Grampa just got his own milk & crackers. I was on the phone. I'll try to get over next week again. Write to us. How are you doing on my things? Hope you can get them.

The d popsicle man just came & I have ½ a popsicle as Jimmy and Paul split one so Chip had to. Tastes cool tho.

Have a wonderful time — you deserve it. All is well here. Wish we could be with you. Some day we will.

Love,
Marilyn

P. S. Hope you can read this. Pepper and Coke say "Hi!"