

AVIS, CATHY and JOYCE

I never have had time to tell you after I got to California I arrived at six at night. Went to the hospital immediately. Your Granddad wrote on a pad and asked about you, your Dad and Mother, and then wrote, "Marie, this morning I had my last Rites." I asked him why they did not wait until I got there and he wrote they said they couldn't. Then he wrote, "I also signed a paper giving my permission to let you fly me back home to Memphis. I want to die at home."

Several days passed and I finally asked the Doctor when we could leave, and he said, "Oh, he could not make the trip."

One day your Granddad wrote, "Don't you need any money?"

I said, "No, you don't think that I would come out here without any money, do you?"

He wrote, "Don't worry. I have saved enough."

I asked him what for. He wrote, "I have done without so you would have it when I get back home. If I do not live to get home, it is all yours. I cannot make a will on account of my status, so you see, I have two cancers. I know you will look after the children."

He said he had always been cold in California.

One day his sister and cousin were in to see him. We were talking and all of a sudden he yelled out, "Marie, get a lawyer."

I went to the bed and asked him why he needed a lawyer. He said, "I want a lawyer to help me regain possession of my money before it is too late."

So after he died, I found out that the paper he signed was a long typewritten will.

We had an autopsy performed.

Then on the way back to Memphis we had a train wreck at El Paso, Texas, that kept us on the road three days and three nights. It was hard to be alone on a trip like that.

Your Granddad was a Catholic, but we buried him in Memphis Memorial Park with our son in the Masonic Section.