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1960 - June 7

Carolyn Brown Dodge

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Letter #1 (Black ink, no envelope)

Letter (Lotta has passed away on Feb. 10, 1960)

Carolyn

June 7, 1960

Dear ones: the old order changeth – and I can't help think of the changes in the years of the circular. As long as I can remember it has been part of the family life. We used to listen to it being read aloud when it arrived. Undoubtedly, we didn't really relish it in those days but I remember the anxiety when the letter was late arriving. Ties are surely weakened when one of the family is gone and when both parents are gone the strings must be tightened. This is one way to take up the slack. I do enjoy the letter + realize how far apart the various members of the clan has grown in miles but there surely is a nice closeness too. This closeness surely was apparent in our short stay at Sidney?

As of a week ago today we are land holders in Quincey. We have shopped quite thoroughly for the best set up for us and last week bot a house. Wanted two bedroom house with basement and got it – with bedrooms in basement too if we wish. As a bonus we have two fireplaces (we've always wanted one), two bathrooms. It is a house built with an idea of privacy + permanency rather than just a house to sell. Can take possession July 1 – and can scarcely wait to get into it. The house at Kittitas is to be for sale + we hope it can sell readily to get it out of our hair. The company plans to give up their leases on the two warehouses at Kittitas this summer so we will be out of business over there. Our address will be P.O Box Quincey. Have applied for box but none available as yet. Just Quincey will reach us – if you add the Washington of course. And so another arder changeth + time marches on.

We go to Seattle later this week to see out Jack get his degree for dentistry. I am sure his wife she should get a pig skin too. They have been so wound up over the school activities and so eager to get finished and get started making a living that I've felt sorry for them both. They plan to live + work in Tacoma.

Bill _+ Sandy live at Quincey + we are so happy to have our first grandchild available to love + spoil + even help with. Bill still has a crew of four women cutting seed spuds but surely this week will finish potato planting. I'm sure the crew has been at this job for 8 weeks at least. A good cutter can do about 70 sacks per day + they pay them 30 cents per pack – I say they (earned?) it too. By the way before I leave the Bill Dodge subject – the granddaughter is Michele Marie, born April 4 – she's a doll.

Bob got home from six months service in April + now takes off for Fort Lewis in Tacoma late this weeks for two weeks summer camp. He joined the National Guard. I think Fort Lewis is where Earl trained isn't it Esther? In going threw mothers things I found several pictures of Earl + Nadine + many many others – some I could remember + some not. Have received so many letters from friends, relatives, + acquaintances that I feel I should someway try to keep track of more than I do. Mother did so well that way.

Was glad to see Helen's letter + received a personal note from her too. Aunt Grace's letters always so very good. I think too of all the busy years that Uncle Carl has taken time to add his page to the letter. Perhaps not so busy now. I just barely recollect you Verna but remember how Betty "coveted" Johnny. Elmer W is just a name but one that has been faithful

in writing + surely should not stop now. And oh that L.P. Brown family. What a tribe they are!
Well I've said my say
Carolyn.