

1075 North 1400 West #42
St. George, Utah 84770

September 7, 1989

Dear Ida Rose and Tracy,

This is to let you know where we are and somewhat how we are doing. We moved back here in the middle of the summer and are getting settled. We looked for a place to rent and decided we did not want to rent so looked at this one place and decided to settle down. The couple had to sell it as he was injured in his work and had to move to Salt Lake for special medical treatment. They did not want much only to get out from under their obligation here. We were surprised to see it was a three bedroom, two bath, condo. They are really more duplex type homes, Spanish style white stucco with red tile roofs. The place is called the Spanish Palms Condominiums so you can guess there are lots of Palms. We each have one in our front yard. Some have frozen down and do not look so good but we love ours. Hope it does not get frozen when winter comes. Jim is using the one bedroom for his office and it works out just right. Each two homes are connected by their carports and storage sheds and a short *I garfed here.*

part of a kitchen wall. Our back yards have stucco fences with iron gates to the common grassy areas and we each take care of our own back yard except the watering. It is done automatically for the whole area and the only lawn we mow is if we have lawn in our own back yards. There is a nice patio and grass and shrubs and flowers in ours and we are glad. The nicest part about living here is that we have a swimming pool almost right across the street from us. It is just slightly heated and we each have a key to the gate. Jim and I are really enjoying it. There are 52 units here but only about half of the families ever use the pool so it is not very crowded and lots of times we have it to ourselves.

We do.

In the spring the pool was too hot so they have it about right now. It will be open until the cold weather comes.

We are in a great ward and our neighbors are wonderful too. We really feel at home here. Jim is secretary of the High Priests so he is kept busy. I had pneumonia and broken ribs at Christmas time and it took months for the coughing and lung problems to clear up. By then I had active lupus again and have been very ill. We are glad we came back here where our excellent doctor is and he tested my blood and adjusted my medicines, put me back on Prednisone, and now I am alive again. My heart decided to go out of beat after I got here so I am back on heart medicines also. But it is great to feel really good again.

Things here are not near as expensive as southern California and Jim is much happier. He hated the traffic problems there too. His company was third from the lowest on the bid opening of the church for the ward we are living in. They wanted it for themselves and Jim but are now bidding other jobs. Ten companies took plans and nine of them turned in bids; everyone needs work so the bids were fairly close.

Construction is a rough business but what is not now a days?

Pat, Scott, and the children are very happy that we are close to them and so are we. Lara comes often to swim and the boys come when they are not too busy with school and scouts, etc. Pat comes with them part of the time. They have a hot tub so Scott relaxes in that when he gets home. A few weeks ago, Pat left Lara here and Jim, the Hartmans, and their dog went for a hike to the north of us. They found a huge desert tortoise. I have always wanted to see one and was happy that they all got a chance to see one out in the desert.

Pat and Scott are both busy in the scouting and she is also President of the PTA and is the organist for the Primary so they are both busy.

It is amazing to me how many extinct volcanoes there are here. Snow Canyon is beautiful and Pine Valley is ideal for camping. We had a Stake High Priests party there not long and it was good to be back in the mountains of Utah.

We do think of you often and wonder how you are. How are your children and grandchildren? We used to be able to see each other and then like every one else we all get busy with our own. We have not been to Ogden since we saw you there last a couple of years ago. We have traveled to southern California many, many times. Jim built a church in Canyon Country. We prefer Utah.

If you come down this way, let us know. Stop in and see us. Our phone number always just misses the phone book. It is 628-6841. Pat's number is 628-7337. We are in St. George but take the road to Santa Clara to 1400 West and turn east.

Ida Rose, can you please send me Sherlene's address. She wrote a long while ago and I know she moved but do not have her new address. Thanks.

Had best say so long for now.

Love from

Melba & Jim
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