

July 14, 1985
NEIL LETTER, HALLMANACK

Dear Family:

We recently had a wonderful trip to Utah. It was good to be with everyone again and to have the kids visit their cousins. I wish we could have been there at April Conference when Virginia and Barry were there, then it would have been an "almost" family reunion!

Thank you, Nancy and Doug for the wonderful Fourth of July Picnic! We had a great time. It was so much fun to see Dad get drenched with the kids in that waterfight!

We got home at 8:00 Friday evening, and Marty got up at 5:30 the next morning to drive Greg up to an LDS Encampment for the Boy Scouts that was already going. Greg spent the weekend there, came home Sunday night, and left Monday morning for another scout camp in the Sierras. He has been gone for one week and will be gone another. Unfortunately, all the scouts there are not LDS and the atmosphere is not always scout code, but Greg said at the week's end call that he is having a pretty good time.

Marty left yesterday morning for his first trip as "Group Marketing Manager". He'll be in Japan for a week. Last week his division gave him a send-off party and roast. At first they thought they wouldn't be able to come up with any dirt on a person as clean-cut as Marty, but after brain-storming for a little, they found oodles and oodles of goodies to bring out of the past. Items such as the time he went to work with two different shoes on his feet, and a more-than-life-size picture of Marty with his curly hair style. One guy stood up and claimed to be the only employee to whom Marty had sworn. An artist in the Graphics Dept. made a custom card showing Marty playing basketball (with a broken wrist and teeth) on the front page and on the inside page being "dribbled" by HP Pres. John Young and Operating Manager Dean Morton. Marty was a good sport, as you can guess, about it all, and gave a nice going-away speech, saying that we're all impressed with titles, but that the only titles that mean anything to him were "Husband," "Father," and "Friend," and said he would miss all his friends at the Santa Clara Division.

He already does, saying he hates his new job, but I think that's just because he doesn't know what it is all about yet. His new boss, Ned Barnholt, has never had the job and is not a lot of help, either. I'm sure Marty will have it under control in no time at all.

My surgery scars are acting up again, causing me a lot of grief. I can hardly stand up straight. The pains come and go, sometimes a month or so between episodes, so I'm not sure what to think. I think I will talk with the Doctor this week.

We have had unusually hot weather for our part of the country, as you've probably heard. The fire season started a month and a half early and fires are causing a lot of damage. This is one time I'm grateful we do not live in the hills. Our garden is flourishing in the heat, though. We planted corn for the first time. It will be interesting to see what we harvest. I think we have been more diligent at weeding this year and the stuff coming up looks edible, anyway.

We hope to have our master bathroom redone at the end of this month. Tile, fixtures and cabinets are ordered and on their way. We're just waiting for the contractor to be ready.

Hope you all have a good summer. It was grand seeing you all.

Love, *Liz*

Liz, Marty and Kidlings