

[Handwritten, blue ink on folded typing paper]

12 S. Grandview
Dubuque
Apr. 15

Dear Dad and Mom,

Congratulations on the new car. I think you'll enjoy it. It was nice to hear you on the phone last night. Karen got pushed out of shape because Yvonne got on the phone first - then she couldn't get control of herself so she could talk. Neal enjoyed your little joke, Dad - when you told him you had a horn, too, a Cornet.

Both Neal and Yvonne took basic skills tests awhile back and both show up very well. They're both very high in reading and understanding. Yvonne is very good in performing math functions. She's not quite so high when it comes to solving written problems, but she is above her grade level in everything. Neal has been having some problems in getting his work done though. His last report card made us decide to visit his counselor. Then we had a serious talk with him. He seems to have been having some problems operating in the complicated schedule at that big school and he wasn't asking for any help. I think he's doing better now. The counselor was surprised at his low grades too. Maybe it's better for the shock to happen now than when he goes away to college. I tell you, that report card brought his parents up short.

We're planning to move back over to the seminary apartments the 1st of June when one becomes available. The rent is lower and there will be other kids for ours to be with. Besides this house has been sold and the new owner wants to move in the 1st of June. I had applied for an apartment before it was sold though.

I'm on vacation this week. I've spent it working on income tax. It's pretty complicated with 2 people earning money, one with withholding and one without; incomes from two states and with educational expenses to deduct. I sent returns in today both for Federal Income Tax and for Iowa Income Tax.

Say Dad about the Rambler, I appreciate your thinking about me. We'll want to have a second car before long if Marilyn goes to work part time. I'm sort of afraid, though, that the Rambler might turn out to be quite an expense before too long. Maybe you'd better try to sell it for what you can get out of it. Yvonne wanted to know how you'd get the car to us. Thanks for calling. Hope you find a buyer.

With love,
Bill, Marilyn, & kids