

Dear Hen

12/3/78

It's Sunday night and I just got home from church. It was good - We sang some Christ mas carols. I've never looked forward to Christmas as much as this year. You are the best Christmas present ever. I had sang tonight in church - it was real good. I slept most of the afternoon today. Felt good. I had been real tired this week, so I'm caught up now. It was a good sleeping day - real dreary + damp outside. Let's see, what did I do this weekend. Well Friday after work we went down to the Ale house. I was so depressed while I was there by the atmosphere of the place. I saw a few people I knew in high school and they were all the same - high school kids. I was thinking they probably were putting on a frig show - really inside they must be lonely and in need of love. It was sad. There's just so much more to life than partying all the time. Why do people need to be drinking to be happy? Sometimes I ponder those questions. I'm just glad I know where I'm at about that. Friday night was our tennis party at Vantage Point. Carolyn + Jeff were there and Cheryl Taylor stayed till 10:00. We play tennis (doubles) till 10:00. That was fun - then at 10:30 we played racquetball (cut throat) Jeff, Carolyn + I. That was great. We played till 1:00. I was really beat. I was also sacked! I mean, we didn't stop the whole time. Jeff + I

played me game alone. He's pretty good. I was having the greatest time! That's my game. When you come home, could we please play if your knee feels OK. By the way, your blue cross, will not pay for your surgery until 1 year from now. I think that stinks! I wish, there was some way I could give you my blue cross coverage.

Work on Sat. didn't go too bad. We started some-  
thing new - <sup>for Saturday</sup> we only treat every patient one time except for percussors - we do them twice. So we've been getting out early. My patients are all so different - they all take their sickness differently - variety of attitudes. Maggie Badman is one of my patients. She's extremely heavy and had a global stroke. We'll be getting her up over the side of the bed. She talks very little, but she's got a dutch accent. On Sat, we sat her up and just dangled her legs, she can't hold herself up. Cindy & I were talking to her about lots of stuff and she talked a little. She never gets any visitors and no one really talks to her, but just being with her that short 15 minutes, I knew she was a pretty neat lady. When we left, she was laughing a little cause we were playing around a lot with her. If you

just take the time to show someone love, it's so worthwhile. People really matter but sometimes I just get so busy with stuff, I don't take the time to listen to others and show them I care. It sounds strange - cause I work with people all day, but some days I'm so busy I don't take the time to listen and get to know my patients ~~or~~ for that matter my family - and it's my loss - you can learn so much from other people and be blessed through them. The Lord wants me to take that time to build relationships and be at peace with others. There was this guy - about 40 years old - in with pneumonia. I saw him to do percussion and his family was just leaving (wife & 3 kids). He was really sad - he was crying a little. He said they are all real close and he hated to see them go. He was so open with me and was not afraid to cry in front of me. It showed me how much he loves his family and I talked with him and could relate to him, how I understand how it is to leave someone real close to you. He seemed to appreciate that. I just want the Lord to make me how he wants me to be, Henry.

Tom McGuilken was in the hospital with pneumonia I was surprised - I went upstairs to do his percussion and found out it was him. He was on about 4 days - he went home Saturday. He had to pay for the hosp. bill himself cause he doesn't have blue

cross. As you would say - a real bite.  
After work on Sat - I ran to your house.  
I watched your aunt + dad paint some pictures.  
They're figuring out a new color scheme that they  
can use for all their pictures. I was impressed.  
Your parents want you to fly home for Christmas  
cause of weather and all. I don't know if they're  
gonna pay for it or what.

Tomorrow night, I'm gonna go up to the mall and  
do some Christmas shopping. I'm on the mood.

Well, now John + Sandy are married. Keith  
came home for it and said it was nice. He said the  
food at C.O.H. was better than this summer.

Hey, babe, you're full of surprises. I was so  
surprised when you called me at work. Cindy  
said she could hardly stand not telling me  
it was you. She thought that was neat.

I'll tell ya, it really made my day. You are  
so good to me. Our relationship does get better  
and better. You are the best.

The picture I sent was the bulletin today.  
It makes me happy to look at it - to see the  
love expressed there. Someday I want to be  
a mother and I want to be a real good mother.  
Someone my children can talk to. I want  
'all of us' to be real close and for love to be

openly expressed. It's such a big responsibility  
I'd have to be totally ready for, but I guess you can't  
be that ready till you have us. Just something  
I dream about.

I pray that all your tests go well for you,  
and that your knee is alright. I'm so excited  
about being with you and doing stuff together. It'll  
be so great, babe. I won't even think about your  
leaving.

Your aunt did the picture (my rep from K-mart  
that they didn't print). They're real good babe.  
Chicago is really pretty at night. You're a great photographer  
some day. I'd like you to take me out and give me a few  
pointers on what to look for and how to center what you  
want in the picture. I think about the times we  
took pictures together - like at Trexler Park in the  
snow. That was really fun! I was so impressed with  
your knowledge about cameras.

Babe I know that it's sometimes hard for you  
there, to be away from those who you are close to  
and be far away. I'm O.K. here though - you don't  
need to worry about me. The Lord is so good to me.  
I'm thankful for all He provides for you there. He wants  
you there, so He will bless you continually more and more.  
Just cause I miss you and cry a lot when you  
leave doesn't mean that I'm in any way against it.  
I know, in time, we'll be together. I'm behind you  
in everything babe, whatever you feel the Lord telling

you babe - you know I'm behind ya. ~~But~~ you're at  
the right place babe. The Lord promises to bless  
those who do His will and He's right there with  
you. In no way are you wasting your time - the  
Lord wouldn't have you doing that.

'Who is the man who fears the Lord?  
He will instruct them in the way he  
should choose. His soul will abide in  
prosperity. And his descendants will inherit  
the land. The secret of the Lord is  
for those who fear Him, and He will  
make them know His Covenant'

Psalms: 128:1-4

Henry, you're such a blessing to me  
my heart is satisfied with you.

I Love Ya,  
Valerie