

## Last Letter to Charles from Joe 2-15-1983

Contributed by Mildred Powell

15 Feb 1983

Dear Charles,

It's been too long since I checked in with you all. Hope the house problems have been resolved to your satisfaction and the recession has not otherwise affected you.

I have been running trying to scare up bits and pieces to keep our folks busy. Really difficult to turn up worthwhile projects and then get them with any kind of profit when it seems the competition is desperate enough to take work at cost, or even below cost, to hold their company together.

Don't remember the count last time I wrote, but made my 7th trip to Egypt Dec. 3-10th. Am doing one trip per week otherwise. Since Dec, 1st—Denver (2), Salt Lake, Cairo, Dallas, Okla City, Bartlesville, L. A., San Antonio, Bakersville, Calif., New Orleans, Dallas (2), Ft. Worth, Midland/Odessa, Hobbs, New Mex. You may recall that one of my pet peeves are people who confuse riding planes with working, but I like to think I do a little good on the ground in all these cities. One thing for sure, it exposes me to lots of pocket watches, and I've about spent myself into the poor house picking up all the "good deals that have shown up over the past few months—to there are some dealers who call me up now when they have something. I'm working on a plan to retail some of them to get money into other things. (Any sales would be at profit naturally).

Got this letter out, and hope to start doing some stories for the paper soon. My Bro. Travis, I have just learned, has decided to get back together with his wife he separated from 4 years ago, so don't know how much he can help. He's also going thru the rigors of a new house in San Antonio, too, Mildred & Jerry are back from Yugoslavia 1/1/83, and in an apartment. Have the papers done on a house, but looks like another 3 weeks before they can move in. He's at Dow Center here in Houston—a good job to carry him until early retirement in about (3) years.

Needless to say, I haven't gotten very far on my project at Sealy. Hopefully soon will have the barn going. Just left a meeting to set up another trip to Egypt Feb. 27 to try to seal some of the deals we have pending, plus get the action going on several new prospects there. If we can get back soon enough Ruth and I are due to leave for San Francisco Mar 13 for 7 days. Gas Processors Convention 3 days then just some sight seeing. Both looking forward to this one. Hope we can see you all somewhere along the way, but have two other couples who want to travel with us, and think the girls have most of the time booked—will try to contact you when we get there.

Now Wed p.m., so guess I'd better close out. Again, hope things are going well.

Sincerely,

(signed) Joe Taylor