

April 12, 2015

Richard White and Beverly Purrington  
879 Vista Drive  
Redwood City, CA 94062

Carol Doig  
17277 - 15th Ave NW  
Seattle, WA 98177

Dear Carol,

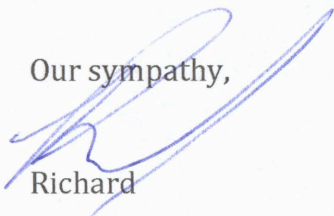
I heard the news from colleagues at Washington and read Ivan's obituary in the *New York Times*. I miss him, and I can only imagine your loss.

The consolation, more for me than you, is what a writer he was and how fully he succeeded in capturing the places and people he wrote about. I fear that he has so fully realized a fictional Montana that it has forever colored my view of the real one. I start to write something, and I think, am I transposing one of Ivan's novels into history? Ultimately it doesn't matter that much; he captured so much of the truth of the place.

Even posthumously and even in my real sorrow at his passing, he could make me laugh. I had not heard the lariat proletariat line until I read it in the Times. It is a line I will shamelessly steal. I stole so much from him while he was living, he would understand my grave robbing.

The deepest condolences from Beverly and myself.

Our sympathy,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Richard', written over the printed name 'Richard'.

Richard