

Mitchell, S. D.
Feb 26- '42

Dear *Aunt Ella:*

Received your letter yesterday and I know your anxious to hear and I don't know how soon Uncle Giles will get around to write so I'll do so tonite.

Yes Paul and I went to Aunt Sadie's funeral. We got there Saturday nite and Joe came Sunday morning. We didn't take the kids as we knew they would be short of room. Martha didn't come as she has had rheumatism and wasn't able.

About a month ago Aunt Sadie developed shingles and had to go to the hospital. They got her over that and then she got pneumonia. She was very sick but seemed to get better and insisted on going home so Uncle Giles took her home but she took a turn for the worse and had to be taken back and was there about a week ~~when~~ when she died but she only knew them one afternoon during that time. The rest of the time she was out of her head. Uncle Giles wrote and told us she was very sick so Paul wrote and asked if they wanted him to come and she had them write and tell him she'd be so happy if he would and she'd like to have him come on Sunday (that is a week ago last Sunday) Well he couldn't go then because he had to register for the draft on Monday and then we had a letter from Giles saying she was better so Paul wrote and said we ~~couldn't~~ would be there last Sunday and ^{we} ~~we~~ figured she would be better by then and would enjoy our visit more but Friday we got the word she had passed on. We were so sorry we hadn't gone before but they said even if we had gone the Sunday before she wouldn't have known us anyway.

She was buried from a funeral home by a Methodist Minister. He preached a very good sermon. She looked real nice but not like Aunt Sadie to me at all, but of course we didn't tell Uncle Giles that. Her body and ~~arms~~ ^{arms} were so very thin but they had padded her face a lot really too much to look natural and I think perhaps as much as anything

else we missed her smile. Her face was so serious.

She was buried in a black lace dress and had a corsage of white sweet peas and American Beautie roses tied with silver ribbon.

Her casket was the prettiest one I have ever seen. It was a gray metal. The corners were more silver and up over each corner was a big sheaf of leaves and they were golden colored. The inside was egg shell crepe but the pillow on which she lay and the lining of the cover of the casket was shirred velvet. The ~~chapel~~ room where the funeral was held was such a pretty room. She had a lot of flowers and they were so pretty. There was a large crowd there and the auxiliary of Spanish Est. War Veterans were in charge.

She belonged to that. The soloist was a ~~contralto~~^{altoist}, accompanied by pipe organ Music ~~They~~^{She} sang "No Night There" and "Lead ~~Kindly~~^{Kindly} Light." and during the ritual and when the corpse was being viewed a cellist played beautifully. She was buried on "Sunset Hill" cemetery and when the procession entered the gates, bells in a tower began to Play "Nearer My God to Thee" and played softly during the entire services, at the grave. It was one of the nicest funerals I've ever attended and I wish you could have been there but I was afraid you wouldn't be able to. The weather was nice and sunny but cold.

Uncle Giles is terribly broken up and I feel so sorry for him. It would ~~help~~^{help} a lot if he had a son or daughter totunn to now as it is it seems to him he has lost everything. I guess he isn't sure what he will do. He isn't very well and doesn't intend to work anymore. You know he had a bad heart attack before Xmas, and was in bed for some time and he also has a dropsical condition so you see he isn't to well. He would like to keep his home and intends to try to I believe. Fern is with him yet.

He said he couldn't let Uncle Tom know as he didn't know where they were. You can probably let them know. I was glad we could go and I think Uncle Giles was glad we were there. I am sending you my Memorial Record because Uncle Giles might not think to send you one.

After the services all the relatives went to the house for supper and Paul and I left for home at ten that nite. Joe intended to leave the next day at 5 O'clock. We would liked to have stayed a few days with him but don't know as it would have helped him. What Uncle Giles has to face now he'll have to fight alone. No one can keep him no matter how much they'd like too., but its something we all have to go through sometime.

With Pauls Help I'll try and tell you what relatives were there. John McCabe & his son Johnny and wife from St. Paul. (John McCoabe makes his home with his son since he retired) Kate and her husband and Carolyn. Maggies daughter, Modella and her husband.

Uncle Giles cousin and her husband ~~Sam~~ Logan who live in Minneapolis, and I guess that ~~was~~^{all} you would know. Some were coming from Wapeton but couldn't because of a blizzard there sunday. The night before the funeral Kates husband had a slight stroke and was in the hospital when we left. Well I guess I've covered it pretty well at any rate I can't think of any more to say now, and I've run out of paper so I'd better quit. The one thing we know and can be thankful for is that Aunt Sadie is through suffering and I guess she has done plenty of that in the past few years. She had seven blood transfusions besides serums before she died but ~~they~~^{she} couldn't build her up a bit. We are all fine, Paul is home tonite. We have eleven inches of snow the most we've had all winter but we can use the moisture.

Well Aunt Ella I hope you can make this out and get some idea from it. I'd like to be able to tell it to you I know I could do better. Write when you feel able.

Love

PAUL EVA & FAMILY,

Wallace Ringer
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