

August 26, 1942.

Mrs. H. W. Magee,
708 No. Jefferson,
Carrolton, Missouri.

Dear Mrs. Magee:

I am writing to you as Ray Parkins' sisger to convey Mrs. Allen's and my genuine and deep regret over the passing of Ray. Queer as it may seem, neither Mrs. Allen nor I read the notice of Ray's death or of the funeral in the Kansas City paper. I had heard indirectly from some people in Chicago or Minneapolis of Ray's untimely passing. I wrote Ray on May 11th asking him about a high school boy in Minneapolis. I did not hear from him and I could not understand why because he had been so punctual in his previous responses.

When I heard of this rumor I wrote to Louis Menze, who was a teammate of Ray's when I was coaching at the Teacher's College. Louis wrote me that he and his wife, Keith Dancy and his wife attended the funeral at Carrolton, but he did not mention the date. I would appreciate very much if you would give me the address of Ray's mother and her initials, together with Harry Parkins address in Kansas City. Harry attended the Teacher's College a short while and I would like to write and express my sympathies and also explain why Mrs. Allen and I were not at the funeral.

Ray was always one of my favorite boys - so happy, intelligent and jovial - a wonderful boy with wonderful possibilities. Some five years ago I visited in his home in Minneapolis and we spent a happy day together. I had recommended Ray for two or three positions here recently and I remember with a great deal of pleasure that I recommended him for his job at Duluth under Superintendent R. A. Kent. I boosted him whenever possible because I knew that he had all the necessary qualifications that go to make up a fine citizen and an excellent teacher.

Mrs. Allen and I have talked of Ray so often. Our oldest daughter, Mary, who is now living at Palo Alto, California, was a little tot in Warrensburg when Ray was in school. Ray would get up in the morning, cook the oatmeal and get things ready before Mrs. Allen would come downstairs with her small brood. Ray was quite a cartoonist and artist and he took an art magazine. On the front of that magazine was a picture of Justice with a blindfold and with the scales in balance in her right hand. Mary asked Ray what that was and he said, "That is Justice, Mary." Some few days later there was cause for Mrs. Allen to deny Mary some favor that she had asked of her mother. Her mother said, "No, Mary, you may not do that". Then Mary said to her mother, "You are just old Justice." Her mother said, "Mary, what do you mean, old Justice?" And Mary said, "Because, Mother, you always do just as you please."

Ray got a big laugh out of this and we often joked about it.