

Back in 1925 we lost Forrest, jr., and since that time Mrs. Allen has never been the same. She put her whole life in her children and it was her philosophy when he went so early that he had been cheated in his right to live as a young man. Whether that is the right or wrong philosophy to have, she had it and still has it. She as a mother has put everything into Bob and he has been the nearest ideal to her of any of the children. It is very difficult for her to divorce her deep affection for Bob. She just can't do it even though Jean has first claim and should have, and Mrs. Allen is earnestly striving to maintain that attitude and position.

At the same time, she is very fearful of Bob's health, and with all the background of her worrows it looked to her as if you were taking insurance out on Bob's life - rather a gamble on his dying, instead of his living. I told Mrs. Allen that it was merely a gift to Jean and Bob, that you were figuring on him living and she was figuring on him dying. Just two viewpoints.

I will ask you to accept it in the best grace possible because Mrs. Allen would not hurt Jean and Bob in any degree, but she just couldn't get over this hazardous quirk of mind.

I would not have mentioned this had I not considered that it was paramount to both of our interests, in both families, to be bigger than anything that happens on the outside at times, and remember that Mrs. Allen is a very intelligent woman but in this case the background of experiences has embittered her and she could not help feeling the way she presented the matter, rather than the way I think it really is.

With all good wishes to you and Jessie, and assuring you of my understanding and devotion to both Bob and Jean, as well as my sincere friendship for Jean's parents, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH