

November 16, 1944

Mr. C. H. Hoinville  
908 Railway Exchange  
Chicago 4, Illinois

Dear Charlie:

Gertie's telephone talk with you this afternoon broke off so abruptly that at first I thought we had lost connection. My second thought was that perhaps you were rather overcome in thinking about Julia.

We had been out to the cemetery this morning before we heard of John's death and had placed flowers from our Golden Wedding on Julia's grave. The geraniums are still in full bloom although this is the 16th of November. I am afraid we may have a freeze tonight.

You will remember that when Etoile and Julia died that we were unable to secure a metal vault and had to use concrete vaults so I was somewhat surprised when I talked with Mr. Funk, the undertaker, to learn that metal vaults were now obtainable and at exactly the same price charged for the concrete. While the concrete will outlast the metal vault, we are more accustomed to the use of the metal, and I think would probably prefer it when it is obtainable.

We regret that John's sickness has taken so much of your time and care, but we certainly do appreciate it. No one would have been kinder nor more attentive. Tuesday we received a very beautiful letter from Mrs. Barnes in regard to John and having read it, we were not surprised at his passing today, because she indicated that he had difficulty in swallowing and was a desperately sick man. You didn't say over the phone whether the Union wished to have any services in Chicago or not, but I presume it did not. We shall have graveside services at the cemetery, taking with us Mr. Thomas, who has been so helpful in our several periods of trouble. The death of John leaves Gertrude as the only living member of her immediate family.

Tell Mary Jule that Mrs. Stough was at our reception and looked very nice.

Lovingly,

WCS:df

Your Brother