

71 Beech Street  
East Orange, New Jersey  
December 7, 1949

To you who loved my mother and who are also dear to my heart, I am sending these words because I want you to know all that I can tell you.

On November 2 mother fell on the porch of the Hospital, fracturing her left hip. As soon as possible after we received the word Clifford and I went out to the Hospital. We found mother in bed in the infirmary, cheerful and apparently feeling no pain. The doctors had taken x-rays and were doing everything possible for her and had made her so comfortable that we think she did not realize there was a break. The doctors thought it best to wait for a few days before deciding how to set the bone. Dr. Shor, my doctor here who had been mother's doctor also, talked on the phone with her doctor at the Hospital, and found exactly how things were. I also kept in touch on the phone, talking with the nurse, and whenever I called she reported that mother felt well, had a good appetite and was happy. On November 17 when Dr. Shor phoned, mother's doctor told him that he had been afraid to set the bone by using a pin or putting her hip in traction for fear she would not be strong enough to stand either. Therefore he had put the hip between sandbags, and mother continued to be comfortable. We went to visit her on November 19, and as we entered the room she was singing. The nurse asked her if she knew who I was and she replied with a smile, "Yes, Lois Grace Hutchinson", and when the nurse said "I think she is a sweet girl", mother answered, "Thank you, so do I". - so normal and exactly like herself. I felt so hopeful and happy about her.

On Monday morning, November 28th, the doctor at the Hospital telephoned me, saying that he had been off over the week-end and on his return that morning had found mother not so well and thought it best for me to come to see her. I was able to secure a Red Cross car to drive us to the Hospital. I phoned Clifford, he took a taxi from Newark where he is employed and arrived here just before the Red Cross car came. We reached the Hospital about 11:00 o'clock and were taken to a private room where we found mother lying unconscious, breathing regularly but heavily. The nurse told me that mother had been conscious earlier, had eaten a little breakfast and about half an hour before our arrival had lapsed into unconsciousness. She had a little temperature and her heart was weaker. When later her doctor came in he told me that as a result of the hip fracture an embolism had developed and on Saturday bronchial pneumonia had also developed. I sat by her bedside constantly except when I went into the next room twice to telephone. Once when I returned to her room I saw that mother had moved her head a trifle. I held her hand and once I thought I felt her press mine a tiny bit. She continued to breathe regularly and heavily. About 1:00 a dear friend came to be with us. At about 2:30 mother breathed slightly faster twice, and then her breathing stopped. No pain, no struggle, no distress. In our grief we find comfort in knowing that all was peaceful and that her passing was as she was, sweet and gentle.

A beautiful service for her was held on Wednesday, November 30. She lies in Rosemount Memorial Park, Newark. Clifford in his deep sorrow, is so kind and thoughtful to me, friends are wonderful in their constant sympathy and help, my cousin comes from New York when she can, and I am going on. We have no definite plans for the future as yet, but shall continue as we are for the present at least.

Mother loved you, and so do I.

Faithfully ever,