From: Ruth Cross

To: Mr. and Mrs. Perry Whitacre

Date: July 6, 1945

Dear Folks

Ruthie is very much ashamed of herself again for not having written for such a long time. I didn't write any letters all last quarter to tell you the truth. Somehow since I stopped writing Glenn I just can't seem to make myself sit down and write without getting a lump in my throat, and finally putting my pen down.

There is really no excuse though for not thanking you for my wonderful night with you all before Dale left. You were all so very, very, sweet to me, just as you always have been. I appreciate everything you've done and been to me though, never have and never will forget it. Gee, I hope you'll forgive my dopey letter – writing habits!?!

My grades last quarter were much better than winter quarter, and I'll think I can keep 'em "above board" my remaining two years of school now. Last quarter I moved to my sorority house and was with sorority sisters, all fine girls that I'll be with the rest of my college. Several times Alpha Xi from Bowling Green came down and I of course cornered them as soon as they got in and talked about BG and Glenn. I find that nearly everyone at B.G.U. knew Glenn, Sears and Beatty. Even if they're freshman they've heard of Glenn, at least. Lois Peitchman's sister was down once, and I talked to her for some time. Everyone says about the same thing regarding Glenn – summed up "terrific fellow."

If you had heard any news at all I'm sure you would have let me know. So I take it you know nothing more. As someone stated about "Perry" (I believe it was Nadine Pittman) "There'll never be another Glenn." That expresses my feelings to the bottom of my heart. I'll never forget anything about him – everything he said, the considerate, sweet, crazy n "devilish" things he did. Well, I'll just never forget him. The places I go remind me of him. Some fellows I date even remind me of him sometimes. But somehow they are not the Glenn I knew so well – they just don't measure up. If I don't quit this, I'll get all choked up again because I still love him and can't help it.

It's been so long since I've heard any BG news. I wrote Punky once several months ago, in Kingman Arizona. The letter was returned, so I'm in the dark as to where she may be. And I'm very anxious to know where Dale is now, and does he like the Navy? If you send me his address I'll use it, 'cause I'd like to hear from him. I wear his jacket all the time at school, and everyone thinks it's "really sharp." Remember the white hat you bought me? Well, this is no kidding, I actually started, or at least helped start the fad at O.S.U. The girls at my sorority liked mine, started wearing 'em, then other sororities.

This summer I'm working at Kilmer's defense plant here in Tipp. I get \$45 a week while my sister Mary only gets \$33. Mine is a little more dangerous and I work a bit harder. But since I have to put 9 hours a day in some way or other, I think this was is easily worth the extra money. I'm pretty tired at the end of the day. Usually I come home, eat, read a little, take a bath, n' go to bed. This weekend I'm going to Columbus to see an old girlfriend and Mary Pinney. She never met Glenn, but I think they really knew each other through my descriptions.

I roomed with her last summer and she used to write to her boyfriend in France every night, while I wrote to Glenn (every night – no kidding.) She'd put a note in Glenn's and I'd put a note in Bill's.

I think her Bill is going to stay in the Army or Occupations. It seems most of the fellows, if given the opportunity, will take a 30-day furlough, and the Pacific, rather than stay over there.

Mother read about Wink in the Wood County Rep. And I felt pretty bad to think such a swell fellow had to get it – another swell fellow. Seems funny, this war seems to hit all the really good boys. But suppose many people over this world are thinking the same thing. Still, we can't help feeling selfish and feeling that ours was a "special" loss – but "our" boy is something extra special, that's obvious, isn't it?

M. Pinney went to New York City this summer (and last spring) to work, and is just back for a week. I would have like to have gone just for the experience myself. She lives at the Y.W.C.A. and is crazy about New York. My sister is working in New York City (Virginia) and also getting her Master's Degree. I didn't go because I can work here, and Dad is still feeling ill and I guess will be as long as he's still with us. I don't know just how much longer he will be here, so I wanted to be at home this summer.

David is at [Lockhausene] and gets home every week. He's beginning to look fine now and is engaged to an awfully nice girl at Columbus. They met at Lancaster Methodist Camp Groups. She wrote to him all the time he was in New Guinea. He started dating her as soon as he got back and hasn't dated or looked at anyone else since. Mother's fine, is kept pretty busy taking car of Dad.

I do hope all of you are in good health. And of course, altho' I'm half afraid to ask, just as I've been afraid to phone you 'cause my letter – writing – is so lousy, and how you know I'd appreciate hearing from you. That is whenever you have time and feel like dashing me a note. N' gee, I hope that is not too far off?!

Love

Ruth

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