

This is a letter written by Franklyn Thomas "Buddy" Simmons to his sister, Mary Oleta Simmons White following the death of her husband, my grandfather, Horace Herman White in 1970. This is a deeply touching letter that shows the familial love between siblings.

December 11, 1970

Dearest Sister Oleta:

I HAVE SOBERED MY MIND IN AN EFFORT TO FIND WORDS TO ADEQUATELY EXPRESS MY HEART FELT FEELINGS ON HORACE'S SUDDEN DEATH. I CANNOT FEEL THAT HE IS REALLY DEAD BUT RATHER HE HAS JUST GONE AWAY. I FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO FIND WORDS TO WRITE TO EXPRESS MYSELF THOROUGHLY.

I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN FIRST BY SAYING WHAT I RECALL AND REMEMBER THAT HE DONE AND MEANT TO ME PERSONALLY. I REMEMBER WHEN YOU AND HE WERE FIRST MARRIED AND HOW VERY HAPPY YOU WERE THEN AND ALL THROUGH YOUR MARRIAGE - I REMEMBER ALL THE NICE FURNITURE THAT HE GOT FOR YOU - I REMEMBER HE WOULD LOAN ME HIS CAR WHEN I NEEDED IT - I REMEMBER GOING HUNTING WITH HIM AND BOBBIE DALE AS WELL AS FISHING - I SHALL ALWAYS REMEMBER HOW GOOD AND CONSIDERATE HE WAS WHEN I WAS IN AMARILLO. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HIM FOR THESE THINGS AS WELL AS OTHER GOOD THINGS LIKE NEVER GETTING MAD AND ABOVE

ALL NEVER CURSING.

SINCE I COULD OBSERVE ALL THESE QUALITIES IN HORACE I KNOW HE WAS A GOOD MAN THAT LOVED YOU AND BOBBIE AS WELL AS BARBARA AND HIS GRANDCHILDREN VERY DEEPLY.

I FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HIS LEAVING US AND YOU. I KNOW THIS IS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND. I DO BELIEVE IN GODS WILL AND THAT IS THE ONLY EXPLANATION THAT I HAVE. I KNOW THAT HORACE WAS A CHRISTIAN AND I BELIEVE HE IS NOW IN HEAVEN.

OLETA, I KNOW YOU MUST FEEL THAT IT IS THE END OF THE WORLD FOR YOU AND YOU JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO. MEMORIES OF THE PAST ARE YOURS AND THEY ARE A BEAUTIFUL THING IN YOUR CASE SINCE HORACE WAS SO VERY GOOD TO YOU. HE IS GONE BUT HIS PRECIOUS MEMORIES ARE YOURS FOREVER. HE HAS LEFT YOU OTHER PRECIOUS PERSONS AND MATERIAL POSSESSIONS. BOBBIE DALE IS THE BEST OF THEM WITH HIS SWEET WIFE BARBARA AND CHILDREN. YOU CAN

Be VERY PROUD OF THEM AND HELP THEM TO GROW UP TO BE LIKE HORACE WAS. HE HAS LEFT YOU ENOUGH MATERIAL POSSESSIONS THAT YOU CAN MANAGE TO LIVE QUIET COMFORTABLY. HE HAS LEFT YOU MANY FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES THAT WILL HELP YOU IN ANYWAY AT ANYTIME.

REMEMBER OLETA I LOVE YOU AND MANY OTHER PEOPLE DO ALSO. I WILL HELP YOU IN ANYWAY I CAN IF YOU WILL LET IT BE KNOWN TO ME OF YOUR WISHES.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT OUR HOME WITHOUT NOTICE ANYTIME.

WE WILL BE UP TO SEE YOU AS SOON AS JO ANN CAN GET A DAY OFF.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE INCOME TAX - I WILL TALK TO YOU AT A LATER DATE.

WE ALL LOVE YOU AND OUR PRAYERS ARE FOR YOU. MAY THE LORD WATCH OVER YOU AND HELP YOU TO UNDERSTAND.

Note

YOUR BROTHER  
Buddy



**Horace H White, 1969**



**Buddy Simmons and Mary Oleta Simmons White, 2006**