February 24, 1954

Greetings:

I'm a ending this via robin, and wishing you the happiest of springtimes. The latest bird books tell me the brave little robin remains with us all winter huddled in the stately evergreens, but somehow it still seems to be a sign of spring. Today is a lush day, more like the temperature of early June in our fair city, what a day to hunt rabbits!

I vowed to do this little detail before two months of good intentions go the way of all time. The past is pretty much paved with good intentions.

A word about Daddy - I still carry on a bi-weekly visit, and until last week he seemed to hold his own pretty well. Last Thursday I noticed somewhat of a change, didn't register as per usual, and last night he seemed to care about nothing, and had a glassy stare straight ahead, no notice of TV or what was said to or about him. I hadn't mentioned the change because I didn't want to cause comment, but Lucy mentioned it, and I was glad to know I wasn't just dreaming. I ache for the poor little guy, but there is little one can do.

I kept both cars open at the temple one night, and listened to some interesting data on the large ranch the church has purchased in Florida. I heard the figure of 15,000 acres, I presume that's the coverage, 32 miles of road to get across it, 1500 acres in garden vegetables, school 32 miles away, 70 whites & 60 to 400 negroes to man it, large tracts of forests, enough lumber for continuous cutting for 3 years, swamps still unexplored, just super scenery, rustling a torides that one wouldn't believe existed today. The city where one finds accommodations was built for the Spanish-American Vets, and only retired folks live there, no industry, and if one hasn't the money one just doesn't stay. Seems a lovely spot for a bit of a vacation.

Love to all. 1-8. mps.

March 17, 1954

Dear Gertrude:

Went to see Daddy last night and in spite of what he has been through he had rallied somewhat yesterday afternoon to the extent of looking better, eating a little ice cream, etc. The outcome is still debatable.

How soon we might need the information I've enclosed I don't know, but I hope you can fill in the blanks. It is a hard family to round up. I've made several calls and they didn't know or weren't interested.

I need to know how many grandchildren Joseph had in order to list Dad's great-grandchildren. Mary had 16 and Naomi 5 making 21 plus Josephs.

Burton and Barr are the only full brothers aren't they. Aunt Jennie mentioned a Fred, Roscoe and Billie Musser. Is Leo still in S.F., Calif.

Would appreciate whatever you can do to fill in and I'll quietly give the results to Guy for future handling.

Ruth Musser Scott mentioned a Samuel Musser from Duchesne, where does he fit in.

Just called Lucy and things are about the same.

Love,

[Signature]

[Note: Handwritten note at the bottom: Hope you are well.]