

January 8, 1983

Dear Granddaughter,

We were so glad to get your letter and all the news..... When I was at University of Illinois I took business courses accounting and economics etc. I also took Spanish and had an awful time of it. I almost flunked it the first semester. But I was writing to a girl in Stephens College in Mo and she started writing to me in Spanish and sometimes she would write 4 or 5 pages. Sometimes even her sorority sisters would add a page or two. Of course I had to learn to read those letters so I learned to write Spanish much better than I could speak it.

I passed Spanish with a B because of this, but when I came home in June I met Virginia the writing soon stopped and the Spanish was soon lost. When I was in Jacksonville Florida to meet Virginia just before we were married in Miami we got mad at each other as all lovers do. I was sitting in a Park in Jacksonville about one o'clock in the morning a man came along and sat on the bench. He asked me for a match and he started talking in Spanish. We got along real good.

He said he was a bank president and they had a big ranch in Argentina in South America with a packing plant in Buenos Aires He offered me a job ahead bookkeeper at the plant. I was to see him in his office the next day. I thought it was a lot of bull.

The next day I went in the bank just to find out. I asked about him and went to his office. There he was sitting behind a big desk. His sec said he would see me as I was expected. I had already gone down to the docks and one of his big ships was about ready to sail, due out at 1:00 ahead for South America. I took one good look at him and ducked out of the office and to the train station for Miami. Virginia and I met at her sisters in Miami two days later and were married two days later. Just think how close you came to never being you! Wonder who you would have been?

I will say one thing big and loud. I have never regretted it. I have had a wonderful and happy life ever since and have never regretted my decision. Just put this all in for you, what you become is the moves you make in life makes your life the way it is.

Grandma and I send our love and best wishes for the future of our Cathy. Grandma's eyes are getting better and she may not need glasses so the doc says. I doubt that

Love from us both.

Grandpa Beaman