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V-Mail

From Mrs. Ralph L. Minker

Box 230

Wilmington 99, Del.

June 16, 1945

To Captain Ralph L. Minker, Jr. 0-770722

709th Sq., 447th Bom. Grp.

APO 559, Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dearest Lee:

Today is just about as hot as that day 21 years ago when you arrived at the Homeopathic Hospital, Wilmington. It was a happy occasion and little did daddy and I dream that you would be experiencing your 21st birthday away from home, certainly not on foreign soil and in the Army. From that day to this we have been proud of you and we thank God that, although you are not with us today, you have been spared and we are looking forward to seeing you before many weeks roll by. I guess I will wait until your arrival before baking the birthday cake which has always been a part of the celebration each year for you three children.

The thermometer has been in the 90s all this week here - we are truly getting the hot weather which we have been wishing for during the past few weeks.

Bernice finished up her Tower Hill activities last night, with the prom. Tomorrow the girls in the senior class leave for Rehoboth to spend a week with Jane Hering in their cottage. I guess they are hoping this kind of weather continues.

"Mimi" McCloskey, who was Shirley's big sister at Williamsport her first year, spent the night with us. She has been going to Western Maryland and was on her way back home, near Altoona. She is going to Juniata summer school starting next week.

I received a note from Julia saying she expected to get back to Wilmington about the 23rd. We are ordering tickets for Brandywiners (one for you, too) for the last week in July, feeling pretty sure that you will be with us then.

Blue Rocks beat York 6-5 last night. They are still in second place, 2-1/2 games behind Lancaster. I think they are to be in Wilmington the entire weekend.

I do hope it is possible for you to be having some kind of a let-up and celebration on this, one of your most important birthdays. Of course you know we are all thinking of you and wishing for you the very best.

With all my love, Mother