

Thursday, April 21, 1988

3325 Bardaville, Apt. 11
Lansing, MI 48906

Dear Deb and Jerry,

Thanks for having us last weekend. The enclosed check is a housewarming gift. Buy some pink dogwood for your estate, or whatever you'd like.

Did I leave my sunglasses there? Please send them to me if I did.

We visited the Tuckaleechee Caverns. They are at the edge of the Smokies, at Townsend. It was fun, but a few more steps than I was ready for. The rock formations were beautiful, and there was a stream running through it. Then we went to Cade's Cove. What a beautiful place. Saw a lot of deer there.

We stayed in Gatlinburg Monday night. We didn't see a lot, because it was rainy, but it was different from what I expected. Everything was so new and clean - a real classy tourist trap. We stayed at a Best Western in rooms right at the edge of a very noisy river. We went to Lumm's for dinner and ate and ate and ate. We got a tremendous amount of food for our money - the soup and salad bar came with the meal - and everything was good. The next day we headed north and stopped at the Museum of the Appalachians. The old tools and junk was interesting, but the best part was walking around the farm. They had chickens, purple martins, sheep (with baby lambs), pigs, puppies and cats. And there were primitive houses and farm buildings to poke around in.

We had another good country lunch at a truck stop in the area - an entre plus three vegetables plus corn bread, then peach or apple cobbler for dessert. Soon after we first sat down, a dog wandered in, and it took a while for the staff to chase him out.

We wanted to visit the Kentucky Horse Park north of Lexington, but by the time we got there Tuesday evening, it was closed. So we went on to Cincinnati, then half way to Indianapolis before we stopped for the night. We stayed at a real nice motel called Lee's. We went to a German restaurant for dinner and it turned out to be a little too fancy for us. Mom and Dad and I had the soup and salad bar and Carol had a rum and Coke.

We got to South Haven at about 2:30 Wednesday and Carol and I went right on to Lansing.

Despite not doing a hell of a lot besides driving and eating, it was a very pleasant trip. I wasn't capable of doing much else anyway. Carol really enjoyed it - she needed the break from work.

I worked all day today and felt pretty good. Guess I'll have to do it again tomorrow.

I tried to reach the detective assigned to my assault case and was told that he retired today.