Saturday, Aug.18 84

Dear, kind Rosa and Murray:

I am going to call you as soon as I feel sure you are up and around. But I wanted to write, too, in order to confirm the fact that I am overwhelmed with the autographed gift of your beautiful book.

Our nice Star Route man brought it to the door yesterday and I lost no time in opening the package, believe me. I had seen the piece in the trib, with Rosa's charming picture on front page, and so knew it was out. Had I known beforehand about your autograph party, I would have made out somehow to be on hand. I must have missed an announcement. Rick Anderson told me later that he had attended and that he had bought a book, which he promised to show me and offered to loan to me. But we never did get together. Anyway, I told him, I intended to buy my own.

I certainly had not expected to receive one as a gift. Bless you both for this. I am more than grateful. I took right off to show it to Roger Russell and to the crowd at the Minimart, all of whom were enthusiastic about its beauty and about the quality of the photos. Took a while to get it back into my own hands again. Several of these people (Jeff of the Minimart hosts a daily coffee klatch) belong to the Island Daubers and were most enthusiastic about the Stuart jacket and end papers. How beautifully that turned out!

And how very gratified all of those old-time photographers and explorers would be to see their work so beautifully reproduced and written about. I am well aware of the gruelling months and months of research that went into both photos and text and couldn't help thinking of the joys, too, of discovery, that you must have shared in your job. Your "Acknowledgments" gives some suggestion as to the travel and time entailed. I certainly applauded your final line of that.

Rita Happy must , indeed, be happy, too, to be included in so distinguished a work.

I have not , as yet, read far into the text. We all pored over the photos at the Mini. They are all good. Some, such as the Stadium Bowl and building are extraordinary. I was amused by your Dome story in the Trib. Of course the Mini people turned at once to the Anderson Island mention pages. One woman, Gail Burg, the Medic who called the copter for Earle, proposes buying the book for her Uncle for Christmas and hopes to get your autograph during your next visit.

We hope, humbly, that you will do us a potluck some time after the season opens. Rick and I will contact you about this and I will, of course, put you up.

The Fair this year is Sept. 28. Roger has his calliope in shape again and will also play one of his own compositions at the fair on a little (8 foot) grand the Piano Peddler is bringing to him to restore. He has turned out some beauties and is at work now on his own nine-foot Chickering, for which he traded his Triumph car. He also is at work on the pipe organ he bought from the

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