

July 15, 1965

Dear Pop:

I ment to tell you the latest on Pete in my letter yesterday but it skipped my mind. I've been in to visit him several times and I believe it made him feel a little better. At least that is what he told his son Don. And what a kick he got out of your letter. Don said nothing could have pleased Pete more. He showed the letter to everyone around and laughed about it to me. As you know, the doctors decided not to wait until Pete's toes fell off but to operate and remove them instead. Which is what they did yesterday. I held off seeing him yesterday because I didn't think he was going to be in any condition to entertain, but Don called me last night and said they had Pete sitting up in a chair yesterday afternoon. Evidently, the gangrenous condition did not go above the toes of his right foot so there was no need of removing any of the long bones of the instep. Then again, the little toe was not infected at all. So they left that on. Also there was no necessity to bother the muscles that pad the foot under the instep and this will give some cushion on the bottom of the foot when he walks. The big toe and the three next were the bad ones and these are the ones that were removed. Don talked to the doctors and they were pleased that the condition had not spread to the instep which would have necessitated the removal of most of the foot below the ankle too. As it is now Pete will have a lot of his foot left to walk on and they expect to have him doing just that in a day or so.

I'll drop over to see him, perhaps this afternoon. The last talk I had with him he said he thought he would be well enough along to catch you at the lake sometime in August. So you can see he hasn't given up on catching up to you. The way things are going with him now I wouldn't be at all surprised if he made it too. His one ambition is to keep up with you.

Say hello to everyone for us. I'll be seeing you . . .

As ever,

