

November 10, 1990

Dear Michel and Annette,

When George passed away, he had two letters to you in his pocket, stamped and ready to be mailed. The police opened them, as they must do in cases of death, and they were then given to me. I do not believe anyone has read them. I am enclosing them.

I am also enclosing a copy of the obituary which appeared in The Edmonton Journal today (November 10) and November 11. I hope there are no big mistakes.

George enjoyed telling me about his letters to you and the letters you wrote him, and he showed me some and read me some. You really helped to make his life enjoyable over the years, particularly the recent times when he couldn't get out as much.

There will be a nice little funeral on Tuesday, November 13 in the same funeral home where France and Bob's funerals were held.

I think we are going to be able to get it arranged for George's remains to be buried next to Milly's in the Edmonton Cemetery. That cemetery is perhaps Edmonton's oldest, and has long since been filled. But I checked and found that there is room for George's remains in the plot where Molly's remains rest. Molly was cremated, and, knowing George, I am quite certain he would have wanted the same. He was a man of the earth, never pretentious or ostentatious. I have selected a wooden urn, simple but nice, because I don't think he would have wanted a fancy bronze or marble one. I am going to go through his belongings today, and if there is a Will desiring different, I will certainly follow his wishes. I have until tonight to let the funeral parlor know. But there was never a mention of a Will, or a desire to be buried in a casket, from George. I refrained from discussing death with him because he was always so positive-minded about life and health. He always talked about how he was going to lick his health problems, and there was never room for any doubt in his mind. He taught people a lot about keeping positive. He never quit, and it was one of his many exceptional qualities.

All we need for George's remains to be buried next to Molly's is the verbal approval of Molly's son Alex. I wasn't able to reach him yesterday, but I expect to today. And I am sure Alex will want that, too. He and his wife Rose were so appreciative of the comfort and companionship George gave to Molly after she became a widow. They were a great team, and her death hit George awfully hard.

My brothers Steve and Tony are coming in from Vancouver and Victoria for the funeral. We are going to have a nice little reception at the Renford Hotel, just a couple of blocks from the funeral home, afterward.

There's still a lot to do, so I had better say 'au revoir' for now.

God bless you both.

Love

Alex

The Edmonton Journal
November 10th 1990.

de SAVOYE, George Charles

Mr. George Charles de Savoye passed away peacefully in Edmonton on November 8, 1990 at the age of 86 years.

George is survived by two brothers, Louis of Markham, Ontario and Michel of Ste. Foy, Quebec; as well as numerous other relatives and friends. He was predeceased by a sister, Franco in 1986. George was an avid outdoorsman.

Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 1990 at 1:00 p.m. at Hainstock and Son Funeral Chapel, 10541-81 Avenue, Edmonton. Cremation to follow. Hainstock and Son Funeral Chapel, 10541-81 Avenue, Edmonton, entrusted with arrangements and cremation. 432-1714.

OCT. 24 - 90

Chère Annette et Michel,

J'inclus une lettre de
nos filles - à - PENTICTON, que
j'ai reçu aujourd'hui.

Ici - le soleil est chaud
sans Nuages - une belle journée.

J'avais reçu une courte
visite de Alex - donc - Il me ne
me dit rien - mais Il me promet
de venir encore - me voir et
blaguer un peu. J'attends.

J'ai toujours mon mal de dos
et j'espère avoir un peu d'aide de
mon Docteur Yeung - demain matin.
ça marche lentement.

Je compte - jouir de beau
temps - ici - pendant tout le
mois de Octobre et Novembre -
le même pour vous -

Je vais mettre ceci à la
poste demain - afin qu'elle peut
voyager rapidement et sûrement
à la Belle province -

40 Millions des

4.

275-70 - Noël - 90 -
 cher Vous -
 c'était pareil - bien couvert et un
 peu de neige - aussi un peu froid.

QUAND même je crois
 que longuement avant Noël, nous
 allons avoir de très Beau Temps -
 chaud aussi.

Je regrette Michel que tu
 continue de décrocher a quelques
 germes de grippe : ta victoire est
 autour du coin. Sans doute !

(X) Ma Table est couverte avec
 des batailles de médicaments - la
 plupart Nouveaux - que je compte
 va renverser ma bataille contre
 mon ennemi.

Je visite mon DR. George
 chaque semaine - les autres sont
 a l'ombre donc je me débrouille
 sans eux. on verra le résultat.

Alex - continue a me tel-
 ephoner mais ce n'est pas trop
 sérieux - une sorte de rêve
 mais je suis poli et j'écoute
 tout cela avec patience

Michel, - Tes Amis a STE-FOY
ont laisser passé Ta dernière lettre
sans "TAMPON" - alors, je vais m'en
servir - un beau jour - Merci.

je Vous remercie a Vous
eux - pour Tous les gros
Becs que Vous m'envoyez
requisement - sans demandes
payement - avant ou apres
les Cadeaux.

(X)

(X)

Chaque semaine - les lettres sont
a l'ordre donc je me de bannir
dans mes - on les a de même.

Tout cela avec patience
et sans se fatiguer
car c'est pas trop
difficile - car c'est
un jeu - et c'est
un plaisir.

NOV 90

Aujourd'hui - grand soleil - mais -
 bien froid cette nuit - - Vers - 15 -
 je suis sûr que ça va changer pour
 le mieux - avant Noël - PARRIERE ?
 je vais de me faire un grand lavage
 ce matin - propre - comme un astre,
 et je m'endors à ma chaise - ça va
 je crois sérieusement - ^{MES} ~~mes~~ petites
 pilules doit faire leurs affaires - je
 me sent mieux - un peu peut
 être.

michel et Annette - Vos santes ?
 Il faut travaillé à ça - pas de
 rêve - moins de gros repas - pour
 vous - plus de fruits et légumes.

Les autos - qui passe sur mes routes
 tous - fait tombé une longue plume
 de fumée - gas - comme un vrai

jours d'hiver et les gosses sont
couverts avec les habits - arctique -
des pieds à la tête - moi, je
vois ça de mes fenêtres - c'est pour
ça que vous pouvez me voir de mes
fenêtres. mais ça ne pas durer - un
de ces jours je vais - prendre mon
Tours dans les magasins.

Je mange bien - vient de faire mon
petit dîner - une soupe épaisse - de
legumes - et morceaux de viande.
rarement de la viande.

QUAND Alex vient - on mange
généralement à la soupe de legumes
d'une canne - lui Alex aime la
soupe de Calerie - et aussi il
mange une énorme salade. Mais c'est
une personne difficile à comprendre. Il
me téléphone généralement vers très tard
le soir - je sais que c'est lui - alors
je ne répond pas - alors - il me punit
et pendant plusieurs jours - il ne me
téléphone pas.

Je mange de papica - alors je
vais vous dire adios - mes chers -
Becs en masse - x x

November 17, 1990

Dear Uncle Michel and Aunt Annette,

Just a note to let you know that George's funeral went well. Many of his friends attended. Robert and Tina sent flowers, and Pierre phoned to offer his condolences. There was a nice guest book with an autumn scene on its cover, which I have saved to go along with an album I am putting together of George. It will include many of the photos he has kept in his apartment of family, friends and hunting...all the things he loved.

We held a reception after the funeral. It was well attended by his friends, and there was much fond reminiscing about George.

My brothers Steve and Tony came to Edmonton from the west coast for the funeral. Molly's granddaughter Maureen Flook and Molly's grandson Murray Markle were also among the guests who attended. My brothers have gone back home to their families now, and I have started sorting out George's affairs.

I am grieving a lot over the loss of Uncle George. I loved him an awful lot. I have cried a lot since he left, but I am told that it is part of the process of eventually accepting the loss of him. I wish I could have done more for him, because he always did so much for me and was always so thoughtful. But George would rarely let anyone do anything for him. He was fiercely independent. When I pushed him in September to move, he became quite upset at me. And with the embarrassment I felt over my problems of the past few years, I tended to shy away from people, including George, even though I knew in my heart that he never condemned me. He was always supportive, although I disappointed him.

I spoke with Dr. J.Y. Yeung, George's primary doctor, after George's death. Dr. Yeung told me that George died peacefully, and that there was nothing anyone could have done. He told me that about a month ago, a cardiogram taken of George showed minor changes in his heart. Nothing serious, according to Dr. Yeung, but that he told George to be careful. I don't know if George told you about this. He never did tell me. Dr. Yeung said he told George that his tiredness was from his heart. Dr. Yeung told me that George died from "silent engina"...not enough oxygen to his heart. He said that usually people with that condition feel pain, but not so with George. He just felt tired.

Dr. Yeung told me that George would have died from this condition wherever he was...in a nursing home, a hospital, anywhere. He said that many people die from this right in hospitals. He said that it was actually better for George to have been living in the apartment as he did. Walking stairs

Gen. E13, 07-11

was actually good for George, Dr. Yeung said, because with the condition George had, the more movement the better.

Dr. Yeung also said that the medical examiner (coroner) had told him that George died peacefully, that he had no different expression on his face, nothing to denote pain. I went to the medical examiner's office, and they also told me that George died peacefully from his heart giving out.

Both Dr. Yeung and the medical examiner's office said George's death was sudden. I am glad for George's sake. I am also glad that he did not have to endure lengthy pain like my father, who was on life support for a month and a half. George prized his health. It was very important to him. He kept assuring me that he was on the road to licking the health problems about which I am sure he communicated to you, and which didn't appear to be life threatening although they stayed with him to the end. He had stopped losing weight. His weight had remained constant the last few months. Seeing his weight stabilize, I believed he was not getting any worse, and it came as a shock when he passed away. It was only in the final 2-3 weeks that he was willing to consider moving. But he wouldn't consider an apartment or a senior's home, and insisted on the final decision. I talked to Edmonton Home Care and phoned a number of housing possibilities. He died before anything further could be done. In retrospect, if I had succeeded in moving him and then he passed away, I would have felt guilty that the move caused it.

For everything George did for me, I feel that the least I can do is act as executor of his estate. I want nothing from it other than the fond memories I have of George. I will keep you posted, and any input you wish to make will be appreciated.

Lots of love,

Alex

November 23, 1990

Dear Uncle Michel,

I hope this letter finds you and Annette well. We have had a lot of snow in Edmonton the last 24 hours and it has gotten cold. But the forecast is warmer.

I have a bit of a problem, Michel. I located a Will of George's dated July, 1989, in which he wills that he wants his remains to be cremated and his ashes buried at his (and your) mother's gravesite, with a bronze plaque on her stone next to his (your) father's plaque.

I have tried to arrange this with the Holy Cross Cemetery where your mother is buried and your father's cremated remains are buried in the same gravesite. However, Holy Cross (like all Catholic cemeteries in Edmonton), will only allow one person's cremated-remains to be buried in the same gravesite as a regular burial.

The rule is that in one gravesite, there can be: (1) one regular (coffin) burial, but not two coffins; (2) one regular burial and one cremated burial; (3) two cremated burials. I have tried everything I can think of to have George's cremated remains buried in the same gravesite, but without success. The same rules also prohibit the bronze plaque George wanted to be placed on your mother's monument, next to your father's.

This leaves two options as I see it:

1) George's remains can be buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in a separate cremation plot nearby to your mother and father's (across the road, near the lake); or

2) His remains can be buried in the (non-Catholic) Edmonton Cemetery in the same gravesite where his dear friend Molly Markle was buried a few years ago. There is a monument on that gravesite which was originally erected for Molly's late husband Jack, who predeceased her. Molly was added to that monument after she passed away. George's remains can be buried in that same gravesite because the non-Catholic cemeteries in Edmonton allow more than two people's remains to be buried in the same gravesite.

I checked with Edmonton Cemetery and they said it was okay. Before it could be done, permission was needed from Molly's son Alex Markle, which he quickly gave. He thought it was an excellent idea.

I did not discuss burial or any aspect of a Will with George before his passing. Partly it was due to his passing being sudden, and partly because of his never talking about dying, only about life and health. The problem now is trying to decide what George would have wanted, had he known he could not

(over)

be buried with his mother. Would he have wanted to be as close to her as he could be? If not the same gravesite, at least the same cemetery? Or would he have chosen to be buried in the same gravesite as Molly? He regularly went to her gravesite, and he planted flowers there every spring. When the maintenance staff cut them down while mowing the grass, George would plant new flowers.

The difficulty I have with burying George's remains next to Molly's is the fact that Molly's husband Jack is also buried there, and his name is on the monument with Molly's. George would have a separate marker, to be sure. But would he have felt right to think he would be in the same gravesite? Would he have felt a bit out of place? George had a lot of pride. I tend to think he might have felt that way.

If you have any thoughts on this difficult question, I would love to hear them.

In other news, Michel, when I was at George's apartment cleaning the day after his funeral, a phone call came from Edwidge Gouin. She is the daughter of Alice Paulhus, who is your and George's first cousin (I know you already know that, what with your knowledge of the de Savoye family tree). I recall George having communicated with you about her. Edwidge phoned to offer her sympathy at George's passing. She had been unable to make it to the funeral. We had a good chat, and I am going to go over to see her and look at and talk about the photos she says she has. She said she had talked previously with George. She lives at 11403-42 Avenue, only 5 blocks from where I lived when you and Annette visited in 1988 when you were here for the reunion. She says that her mother, who is 87, lives in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Lots of love to you and Annette, and a very happy holiday season.

Alex

P.O. Box 58055
 Circle Square P.O.
 Edmonton, AB T5L 4Z4
 December 5, 1990

Dear Uncle Michel,

Thanks for taking the time to consider my letter regarding George's burial. And thanks, also, for your thoughtful comments. (The fact that you agreed with my thoughts only made your comments that much more thoughtful). Seriously, though, it was a difficult decision, and it really helped to have your input.

I made a mistake when I told you that your dad's (my Grand-père) ashes weren't buried until 1986. You were awfully polite to have not corrected me on the fact that his ashes were buried in 1963 after his passing, and it was the bronze marker that was erected in 1986.

As I mentioned, I received a nice letter from Louis' son Paul a few days ago. Paul wrote that he was surprised by the news of George's passing, as he always thought that George would live forever. He said that George always kept in touch on a regular basis, "which always included his sense of humor." It seems that all three of you brothers (uncles) were blessed with senses of humour. I will always remember Louis' wit and his charming grin. The grin shows up perfectly in the photos I have in one of my albums of Louis playing hockey in the summertime in the back yard of the University campus house. And of course there's your trick photography with all the props and costumes, your dexterity with puns, and your general sense of humour. Did all three of you take special courses in humour? If so, where can I sign up?

Love,

Alex

Ste-Foy, August 7th 1991.

Dear Alex,

Annette and I trust that all goes well for you, and that you have quite recovered your usual state of good health... and this because, on your June last birthday card of greeting to us, you mentioned that you had been hospitalized, recovering from an operation.

Here in Ste-Foy we have had very fine summer weather, much warmer than we usually have. Indeed, if our months of May and June were quite sunny and warm, the month of July was really torrid! And generally with high humidity! It was a bit too much of a good thing. It would seem that there is a warming of world climate, causing unusual excesses in earth phenomena just about everywhere.

I must say that, as time goes on, we miss George more and more. Since brother Louis suffers from Alzheimer disease, George was the sole remaining member of our family generation with whom I could communicate. The frequent letters that we exchanged provided us with constant mutual interests. Also, we would tackle and solve, on paper, most of the world's greatest political and financial problems!

I can't begin to express all of our appreciation, as you have been most generous of your time and energies in acting as executor of George's estate.

Naturally, this task always comprises of a multitude of details, most of which requires the sorting out and retention of essential items and souvenirs. And then, their disposition?

Have you been out of pocket, Alex, in the conduct of your work? If so, I would wish to foot such expense. If on the contrary the estate has shown a surplus, how to dispose of it amongst George's several nephews?

(2)

As a personal souvenir of my brother, I would like to have George's will, dated July 1989, or simply a photocopy thereof. Also, if and when possible, a snapshot of George's gravesite plaque (in Holy Cross Cemetery ?) would be appreciated.

It would be very kind of you, Alex, in keeping me posted. And, in closing for now, Annette joins me in sending you two tons of our personal and sincere affection.

With love,

ATTACHED TO THIS FORMING PART OF THIS DOCUMENT.
FIELD & FIELD PERATOR WASH

AUTOMOBILE

YEAR	DATE		
	DATE	DATE	DATE
	MILEAGE	MILEAGE	MILEAGE
IL CHANGE			
IBRICATE CHASSIS			
LARGE OIL FILTER			
LARGE AIR FILTER			
HALE TIRES			
PLACE TIRES			
NE BRAKES			
ACE Plug			
tel & Condenser			
INE TUNE UP			
NGE smission fluid			
1 Cooling System Anti-Freeze			
TOTAL COST			

My records to be estimated and make with my brother at her grave - bronze plaque on her stone near my father.

George's will to Annette party of course

INFORMATION & SERVICE RECORD

July 1ST 1989

LICENCE # INS CO

SERIAL # *My Will*

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
MILEAGE	MILEAGE	MILEAGE	MILEAGE	MILEAGE

NOTIFY - STEVE HARDY
all possessions
TO - 3 Nephews -
STEVE - ALEX - TONY

TONY - MOST OLD GUNS
NONE TO ALEX

CASH DIVISION $\frac{1}{3}$ each
see 3 bank accts.

Lee de Panning

GEORGE CHARLES de SAVOYE

Décédé à Edmonton le 8 novembre 1990.

Enterré à quelques dizaines de mètres de ses parents
au Cimetière Holy Cross, à Edmonton.

(15230-St.Albert Trail, Edmonton.)

