

June 26, 1970

To: Adam Jay Harden

From: Mother, Agnes Anton Tony Adamson Harden  
Father, J. W. Harden

Our dearest Adam:

Trying to project fifty years ahead is rather difficult and almost an impossibility, so we will write mostly about the past.

You are six years old at this writing. We have just completed celebrating Rockport's and Arkansas County's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. We have promenaded in our centennial clothes. You in your vest that I made for you. You wore the color brown because Marshal ~~Morse~~ wears a brown vest. ~~On a great~~

green vest that I ~~ried~~ and I wore a white Gibson girl blouse with leg of mutton sleeves and a long floor length black skirt. We did look nice. Daddy also grew long sideburns, called "Pork Chops" and a mustache. You and I talked Daddy into growing the mustache and he was handsome. We took you to the carnival that was in town and you rode almost every ride and played every game on the carnival grounds. You had a wonderful time and we did, too. You were also a performer in the pageant titled "Bustles to Bikinis." You also rode in two parades.

As you know now at Reading this you are our only child. We lost a little girl, your sister, at birth on July 1<sup>st</sup> but then the



Lord blessed us with you. The love we have for you is indescribable. We have tried to show you this love in many ways. We truly hope we have not used this love unwisely. We have taught you to love openly and freely and hope that you do not get hurt from this, for we believe that it is better to love and lose than to have never loved at all. We can say this because your Dad and I have truly had a wonderful love and you consummated this love — so we call you a love child. We hope that you are fortunate ~~and have a good future~~ and have a good future.

We have always tried to do the right thing for you — sometimes that meant a severe thrashing for you. At times there is a very small line between right and wrong. Hope we have not chosen the wrong too much. You have been a very good and normal boy and we have enjoyed every second — sometimes it has been a little exasperating but not the general rule.

Wish somehow we could be with you when you read this, however that is almost out of reason. Your Dad is 46 at this writing and I am 43 that would make us in our 90's — but only the Good Lord knows what is possible and what is not.

In this envelope you will find a family picture that was taken March 28, 1970. Also you



will find coins minted in 1964 the year of your birth. These are silver coins and 1964 was the last year silver was used in our coins. Also you will find (3) three one dollar bills. Each bill signed by a different Secretary of the Treasury but minted in the 1963 Series. This happened in the last months of L.B Johnson's administration. Henry Fowler was Secretary of the Treasury and Resigned. Joseph Barr was appointed and served approximately one month then Richard Nixon's administration took office and David Kennedy was appointed Secretary of the Treasury. They were of some value at this date, but nevertheless they can be a small Remembrance of us to you and yours. Also you will find a silver certificate. These certificates were called back by the Federal Government several months ago, back in 1969 but this one has been saved for you now. We are also enclosing one silver dollar minted in 1922. Silver dollars are very few now and if none are minted this will surely be collector's item when you receive it in the year 2020.

May you have a good life and what we, as your parents, have done help you on this Road of life.

We have taught you love of man and also love of God and Jesus Christ. Put your faith in God and we know you will not



Have too many complex problems that you  
cannot handle.

With all our love,  
Mom & Dad  
"Jay" & Jay



