

THE NEW YORK *Helm*sley HOTEL

212 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017 • 212-490-8900

10/8/86

Dear Karen & Mike,

Mom and I are on the last leg of our trip home after 2 weeks of vacation on the East Coast. We flew out a week ago Thursday last, and immediately drove up to Darien, Connecticut, about one hour from La Guardia. The next morning we went with the Foxes, plus Bob's Parents to the home of the parents (father / stepmother) of Dennis' wife-to-be, Lisa. He's an investment banker and they live in a beautiful home on 2 acres with a swimming pool. They seem like real nice people.

The wedding was a sumptuous affair and he didn't spare anything. It was held in a beautiful old mansion in New Canaan called Waveny - complete with Chamber music before the ceremony, and a ~~the~~ band after during dinner and dancing. We left at 2 AM to take Bob's parents (75 years old) back to the hotel as they were exhausted. They had just returned from a trip to Ireland on Wednesday - largely

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because the Foxes and we had such a good time. We were actually hosted by Bob's father's first cousin!

On Saturday, mom and I drove all around the countryside looking at houses; we also spent some time at a beautiful park on the coast, Sherwood Island S.P. On

Sunday, we followed the Foxes back to La Guardia where they put their kids on planes back to Seattle & Wazye.

We then drove thru Connecticut to Sturbridge Mass where we spent Monday touring a recreated colonial village.

On Tuesday we drove to Williamstown and toured the campus of Williams College. We also visited with a woman who had been a friend of the Foxes when they lived in St. Louis, and who is now town clerk in Williamstown.

Then we drove up to Swiss Meadows to see how it looked. What a shame, everything is in great disrepair.

We drove home thru Vermont and the fall colors were magnificent. On Wednesday we drove all back roads

down to the Conn Coast at New London for lunch before driving back to Hartford to drop the Foxes off at the airport.

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Mom and I then drove back to Mystic. Unfortunately, the weather turned lousy so we didn't get to tour the museum (all outdoors and not enough time). We took a small ferry (35 car) from New London to Orient Point on the north tip of Long Island, a crossing of about 1 1/2 hours. We then drove along the shore trying to find a nice place to stay. We toured one vineyard & bought a bottle of very nice Joburg-riesling. On Friday we drove in to Bellmore on the South shore and visited with Kathy's Aunt Marion. Had a nice lunch in a German restaurant. That afternoon we drove to Grandma Heddy's and spent the weekend with her. She is in process of moving out of the house and into an apartment being built in Pat and Ed's basement. The construction should start shortly and

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she's hoping to be in by Thanksgiving.

On Monday morn and I dropped the ^{rental} car at the airport and took a cab into the big 'A'. We had a nice room at the N.Y. Helmsley on 42nd ST between 2nd and 3rd ave.

Mon nite Tom, Jane, Barbara and Gene all came into N.Y. and had dinner with us. It was a real nice evening but ended too soon.

On Tuesday we took the subway, which is all screwed up due to construction, to the World Trade Center and then walked to the South Street seaport. Did you visit either? We couldn't have had a nicer day - cool and clear.

That evening we saw "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" at the Imperial Theatre with Joretta Smith, and then had a snack at Sardi's. It's a great life if you have money in N.Y.!

We slept in this A.M. before having a decadent breakfast in our room. We're about ready to takeoff so I'll close here.

P.S. I didn't go into details as I'm sure Mom will.

much love,
Dad/Jim

P.S. Just got home & read your letter with great pictures! Will write soon & mom