

Mangum, Oklahoma  
Dec. 8, 1929

Mrs. S. A. Gorham  
Chamal, Tam

Dear Mother,

I received your letter yesterday evening glad to hear from you, but sorry you have had such a time with your teeth. You sure ought to have had them taken out while you were up here. Well, mother I don't know whether they have written you about Burt's death or not. They tried to send telegrams to all the close relatives. They thought they sent us one, but waited a day and night and didn't hear from us, so

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they phone to the P. O. (post office) Wed. a little after dark one of the boys that works in the P. O. came out and told Lewis there was a death message from Erick but he didn't know who it was, so Lewis went up there and found out before he told me anything about it. He was fixing to go to Lodge. Grandpa was fixing to go to prayer meeting. We got ready and went by the hall to tell them he couldn't be there. Then left Grandpa at the church house. Went by the school house after Vera. She was practicing for an operetta. We got up there about 9 o'clock maybe earlier. There was a crowd there. All of the women folks left tho, but two.

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a bunch of men set up. Olive said Burt had been feeling bad for some time but kept going, said when she got breakfast ready Thanksgiving morning she asked him if he was aiming to get up, he said he didn't believe he could but would get up after awhile, but he never did feel like getting up and just kept getting worse. She had the Dr. and he didn't seem to help, so she called another one. He still didn't improve so they called them both together and they decided they had better take him to the hospital so they took him there Sun. then Mon. night Olive and the children were to see him and he seemed

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to be getting along pretty well. They left about nine o'clock or a little later. The Dr. sent for a special nurse from Okla. City. She was with him all night Mon. night and Tues. morning about 7 o'clock he just passed away in his sleep. None of the folks were with him. They said it was his heart. He had pneumonia, too. None of his folks were able to be there and none of hers except us and Aunt Minnie, Maggie and Clyde. I just got to talk with Aunt Minnie a few minutes. They just got there a little while before the funeral services and left as soon as he was buried, said they would try and come to see her soon. Aunt Minnie said the car

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caught fire some way when Uncle Clyde was getting it ready and they like to of not got it put out. They tried to hire one then and couldn't and finally borrowed one. The children and I stayed up there until Sat. evening. Lewis had to come home and carry mail. Had funeral services at the house. Bro. Etheredge had charge of the services. There was a big crowd. Br. E. made a good. He said Burt was a good man. He had talked with him and he accepted Christ a his Saviors in his heart, but he never could get him to join the church. Told about him being an old settler when and whom he married, how many children they had and they came to that place when they were first

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married and lived there ever since, said he was a good husband and father, a home man and provided well for his family, had held office in the county and worked for the best interest of his community. They had lots of pretty flowers. The school bought a \$7.00 wreath. Olive ordered a \$10.00 wreath, the bank sent one, the court house one and the church and I think several others. Mary and Margaret took a picture of the grave yesterday. He left them well provided for, several farms, and they found (\$13,000.00) thirteen thousand dollars insurance, said the banker didn't have time to go thru all the papers that evening. She didn't know whether he had any more or not

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Olive is in poor health says she just feels weak, can't stand much work. Last summer when we were up there she said she would think she could work just fine, but when she started in to do anything she would tire out in a little while and just didn't seem to have any strength Paul and Mary were there with them. Margaret came home for Thanksgiving and didn't go back. Paul was aiming to work one of Burt's places next year anyway. Mary said didn't seem like she wanted to go back home, said seemed like that was where she belonged. I like Paul

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fine. He milks and gets in coal and water and just helps at anything he sees to do. Lewis took your letter up there and I read it to Olive. I was sure getting anxious to hear from you. I was afraid you was sick. Olive got a letter from Atta while I was there. She wrote like she might come to see her later on. Arthur just got in from the State Poultry Show at Sapulpa, said he won 16th place as individual I believe and sixth team in Poultry judging got \$20.00 for both. He didn't know what he got on his chickens. We've had about a week of pretty weather. Guess it will turn cold again soon. Will close. With lots of love, V.G.S.

VG. S. = Viola Gorham Sweet