

READ HIM
~~REMOVED~~

Jan. 7, 1993

Dear

REMOVED

I want to thank you for the letter you wrote to me. I also didn't know if you would answer me. I was deeply upset by your first letter and still am because I did not know that I had caused you and so much pain and suffering over the years. I felt that I could not let this pass in silence, but that I had to ask for your forgiveness.

I wish we could turn the clock and time back and that I could relive those years. Then your memories of those years would be more the good and happy times we had. We did have many happy moments, but I negated all that by my stupidity and selfishness.

During the past 15 years I saw you people three times. Once was when the three-

time was when you came to [] for a week to get away from everything. In those visits there seemed to be a lot of happiness and laughter as we reminisced over the past. I had no idea that you were enduring such pain at that time. If I had known, I would have asked for your forgiveness then.

I still love each one of you as I always did. That has never change in my heart. I desire only your happiness and peace and that God will bless you in all your work and efforts.

When you came to [], you made close friends with [] and his family. They loved you very much and often asked about you. I thought you might like to know that [] died on [], 1984 at the age of []. I was in Westbury and went to the funeral. She was operated on for a [] when she was in the fifth grade. Only her mother knew

that it ^I might recur. It did come back, but they couldn't help her. Her father also died about a year ago.

You mentioned my betraying your parents and abusing their trust. When I look back, I can see where that was true, but I did not consciously think of it at the time. I believe that where they are now they have forgiven me as there is no hatred or anger in Heaven - just more understanding and compassion. I have often thought of them over the years but it is more to pray for them - for their peace and happiness.

You said, "If there is a Heaven". In the Funeral Mass there is a beautiful and moving expression that shows what we believe. It reads: "For your faithful people, Lord, life is changed, not ended. When the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death, we gain an ever-

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prayer for them, I ask God to treat them with gentleness and mercy because they did the best they could. I do believe that they are in Heaven with and sharing the joys of Heaven.

Years and years ago my life went in the right direction due to the grace of God and the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was also due to the guidance of a wonderful priest-friend of mine. He was a good spiritual director and counselor. He died a few years ago due to a heart attack. I miss him very much.

I was happy to know that you have practiced sobriety for over 8 years now. It must have been a difficult struggle. I'm sure you did it for your son as well as for yourself.

I hope and pray that you will find it in your heart to forgive me. If God will give you the grace and courage to do this, I think you will find peace in your soul.

Sincerely,

Fr. Julian