

July 5, 2010

Dear Mr. Passalunghi,

I apologize for the long delay in writing to you. I've had some health problems and was in the hospital, but am doing much better now.

When you're eighty-five years old your body starts to wear out. I've always felt like I was living on borrowed time since the war. Why I survived when so many of my buddies didn't has always been a mystery. Only God knows the answer to that.

However we, of our generation, shall all be gone soon.

Thank you for the excellent C.D. of Villa Magna. I hope this year's celebration will be very enjoyable for every one. When I was in Italy many Italians said we were "Sua Corda".

I hope you received the copy of the book I wrote of my personal experiences.

During the winter of 1944 I was injured and got "trench foot". The circulation in my legs and feet was broken down and I was hardly able to walk. This recent stay in the hospital was directly related to this — I've had a disability all my life and everything gets worse as you age. (My heart is not as strong so fluids tend to collect in my legs.)

After the war I returned to Los Angeles and attended the University of Southern California.

I graduated and taught history and social studies for eleven years. I met my wife who was also a teacher, and we just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary.

While she continued teaching, I built a hotel at the beach in Carlsbad, California. This was profitable and my wife retired and began painting water color pictures. She had been an art major in college and was indeed talented.

She sold over 500 paintings at galleries in San Diego and Orange County. Tourists from all over the world and local people bought her paintings. I matted and framed them and it became quite a job.

Now she only paints on commission and does not sell through galleries — so she will have time to do other things.

We enjoy our home and have relatives near by. Although we have no children, we have sisters and nieces and nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews — family is very important to us.

The trouble with being retired is you think too much and the war is always with you. However, my wife and I believe in living in the present, but we can certainly learn from the past. Think how terrible it would have been if the Germans had won.

Sincerely Yours
Myron Peterson