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(This is not me)

3840 Hertland Drive,
Kettering, OH 45439
Aug. 29,, 1997

Dear Lorraine,

Been thinking about you a lot, but the truth is, there hasn't been much to write about. We are fine. Busy as ever. My E-mail said you had sent us a card, but I couldn't find it in the internet, so unfortunately your thoughtfulness was thwarted. Sorry about that. I should have written to thank you for it.

I once met the Frantz couple whose untimely death was recorded in today's paper. They lived in Greenville and I passed by their barber shop many times. Thought you might like to know of this.

Lois, John and their family are living in nearby Oakwood for a year. They took a sabbatical leave from their Korea teaching so that John could get his doctor's degree in elementary education at Ohio State. So nice to have them nearby. I gave them my Mercury Topaz and was resigned to being a "one-car" family, but God had another plan. I ran into a vintage Lincoln Continental, a 1985, in super condition and I got it for \$2,000. Oh it is so nice to drive! Makes me feel like a millionaire. Not bad when I'm only a thousandaire.

Have had a good summer and a super August. The weather has been cool and pleasant. Just right for golfing and grilling on the patio. Right now we're feasting on tomatoes, sweet corn and green beans. Wish these things would stay in season all year long.

Would love to hear how you're making out. Take time out of your busy schedule to drop us a note. We remember your visit with great pleasure!

With a lot of love,

A handwritten signature in ink, appearing to read 'Lorraine'. The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Couple together in life and death

Marty and Esther Frantz were killed Tuesday when a car struck their motorcycle in Clay Twp.

By **Martha Hardcastle**
FOR THE DAYTON DAILY NEWS

During 38 years of marriage, Marty and Esther Frantz were rarely apart, working together with their four children as barbers around the Miami Valley.

The couple died together Tuesday, when their motorcycle was hit by a car driven by a 21-year-old West Alexandria man on U.S. 40 in Clay Twp. No charges had been filed Thursday.

"They lived life to the fullest," said their son, Mark, Thursday at the family home on Weitzer Street in Greenville, where a group of family and friends gathered to remember the couple.

Mark Frantz held a handful of love notes

he found scattered around the house after their death. Tears filled his eyes as he read his father's words to his mother:

"Why do we work so hard? I'm ready to take it easy with you, baby doll. Party with Marty! Let's figure a way."

Since the late 1950s, the Frantzes worked together in their barbershops on North Dixie Drive in Harrison Twp., on Irving Avenue near the University of Dayton and in Greenville. They recently sold the Irving Avenue shop to spend more time riding motorcycles and enjoying their growing family.

Marty Frantz, 64, came to Dayton 40 years ago on his Harley-Davidson, went to barber college and wed then-16-year-old Esther Martin, 55, of East Dayton. He talked her into taking up barbering, too.

The couple chose to raise their family in Greenville and opened a shop there, too. All the Frantz barbershops used Marty's invention — a vacuum cutting system that pre-



Esther and Marty Frantz of Greenville, shown in a family photo, died together when the motorcycle they were riding was hit by a car in Clay Twp.

SEE COUPLE/6A

6A □ FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1997

COUPLE: They rarely spent time apart

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ceded the "Flowbee" by at least two decades.

Their children, Michal Mark, Tammy and Tim, fulfilled their father's dream by becoming barbers. He loved to go to barber conventions and brag about "the six barbers."

The couple was well known for their community service. Esther Frantz played piano and sang with the senior citizens at Grace Brethren Village in Englewood. She played their Tuesday hymn service the day she died.

"She will definitely be missed here," said Gene Geaslen, Grace Brethren Village administrator. "She was one who always had a smile on her face. She was con-

'She will definitely be missed here. She was one who always had a smile on her face. She was constantly bringing in her grandchildren and our residents enjoyed that.'

GENE GEASLEN
Grace Brethren Village administrator

stantly bringing in her grandchildren and our residents enjoyed that. She loved to share her Lord and her family."

Their pastor, the Rev. Steve Peters of Community Church of West Milton, said the Frantzes were known for their uncondi-

tional love for each other and for other people.

"They were always more than willing to invite people to their home to eat and very supportive of our youth ministry," he said. "They were very hospitable and giving people."

Peters said the couple was missed at the church's Wednesday night prayer meeting, when they usually sat in one of the front rows. "They are safe in the arms of their Lord," he said.

Faith is helping their children through the tragedy of losing both parents. Eldest grandson Craig Wooten, 16, noticed this Bible verse on their calendar for Aug. 26 — the day they died.

"Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die but will be changed," the quotation read.

The verse was followed by a quote from James Dobson. "The final heartbeat for the Christian is not the mysterious conclusion to a meaningless existence. It is rather the grand beginning to a life that will never end."

Daniel Frantz
Anna Garst



Daniel Frantz
Sophia Ohmart



Benjamin A Frantz
Mary Ann Leedy



Joseph Frantz
Sarah Elizabeth Eby



Elroy Daniel Frantz
Mary Ellen Boone



Martin Eby Frantz
Esther Jane Martin