

LETTERS AND CARDS  
WRITTEN BY KERRY TROTTER  
1975-1998



# At the Rings" October 25, 1975

all attendants:

- 1:30 - Be there - in case we need to make any )  
adjustments

2:30 - Everyone (ushers, bridesmaids, parents...)

Be dressed - flowers + all -

Photographs will be taken before the ceremony  
(some)

3:30 - Ushers - begin seating guests -

- \* Save row one for parents + grandparents
- \* Save seats in row #2 for Rick + John, Sandy, Shelley + Cheryl
- \* Seat guests from outside aisle

Glenda - be ready to register guests

3:55 - Ken, Bill + Natalie - go to front

Ken will play one song

4:00 - Ken + Natalie "SOMETIMES"

→ centaurie  
Lee - seat grandmother Fratter - front row on the right  
Jay - seat grandmother Short - front row on the right  
John - seat grandmother McClarg - front row on the left  
Rick - seat grandmother Benson - Dr. Benson follows -  
seat on front row - left

Mark seat Mrs. Fratter + Mr. Fratter - front row - right

Mark seat Mrs. McEuen - front row left

→ "TODAY" } Ken + Bill - go to back  
"FOLLOW ME" }

→ END of FOLLOW ME - ENTER from Garage Area -  
Mr. Campbell, MARK, Danny, Lee, Jay + Jim.

→ "WEDDING SONG" - Pam Powers + Ken - from the porch

PROCESSIONAL

- PROCESSIONAL ORDER: B.J., Linda, Ben, Kathy, Kirk  
- \*// Kerry // + Mr. McEwen

- Ceremony + Vows

- Song - "Be with us, Lord" - Ken

- Prayer - Dr. Benson

- "you may now - - -"

- Recessional - "I Will"

- Go back for parents + grandparents opposite  
of the way they were seated -

\_\_\_\_\_ - Mr. + Mrs. McEwen

\_\_\_\_\_ - Mr. + Mrs. Hatter

Rick - Mrs. Mc. Craig

John - Mr. + Mrs. Benson

PROCESSIONAL Mrs. Short

\_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Hatter

- Dr. on Campbell Business's greet to Reception

- Parents, Bride + Groom - form receiving line -

I'm grateful for the opportunity to express in a special way my love and assist two very special people (special to me). It's always a beautiful thing when two young people decide to forsake all others and cling to each other for life. That is, forsaking all but Jesus. Two people who are willing to let their lives together become objects of His transforming grace and channels of His love. In the same way that you can get a closer look through the two lenses united in a meaningful way in a set of binoculars, so to, men will get a closer look at Jesus through a man and a woman who are united by God in a meaningful marriage.

There is so much that could be said on this occasion - it's very difficult to select the thoughts that will be the most meaningful for the occasion.

Let me start by stating that knowing both Kerry and Mark as I do, I'm sure that you both have grown in your relationship and love to the point that you both reverence each other and you both have as your sole purpose in life the satisfaction of each other and are willing to assume the responsibilities and commitments of marriage as well as the joys and pleasures. When Christian people come to such a place in their life Jesus said, "A man shall leave his father and mother and shall cleave unto his wife and the two shall be one flesh."

So, what we are witnessing is endorsed by God, instructed by the Holy Spirit and certainly approved by Jesus Christ.

#### WHO GIVES THIS WOMAN IN MARRIAGE?

I know that both you, Mark, and you, Kerry, believe in the Biblical principles of marriage and you want God to bless the home that you are now forming. I'm sure that you both accept marriage as the most hallowed, consecrated and sanctified of institutions. In fact, marriage is the first institution established by God.

As familiar as you may be with these principles, I feel it important to impress your heart with Biblical principles that shall henceforth guide your lives in this relationship of marriage.

(Marriages made by God)

We all need others. No one is complete within himself. Isolation would be pure torture. Is it then no wonder that God has so designed man that the highest form of fellowship can only come when two people are totally committed to each other in marriage and to God in Jesus Christ. This is why, I think, that God stipulates that the marriage union is indissoluble except for the cause of adultery.

We all need loyal friends. The kind of loyalty required in a marriage that God makes is a loyalty that is willing to pledge a contract that will last "until death do us part," and that will eliminate other competition.

We need unity - in marriage two become one flesh. May I caution you - as a result of this ceremony there will be a formal unity but your marriage will only reach the level of Godly unity when your souls are united in God, committed to God and mutually dependant upon God.

We need openness of communication - the feeling of assurance and the acceptance (with no threat) of each other. This kind of openness comes only as a marriage is undergirded with loyalty, unity and integrity. Your mutual trust of each other is precious in your marriage, don't lose this.

We need to know what our role in life is and God has not left us in the dark on this. God's

word stipulates that the weaker vessel is not to be abused nor is the stronger to be reproached. Woman is not man's slave but his helper. Man is not to be woman's oppressor but her protector. She was taken from man's side, not his head or his feet.

God's word lays a challenge at the feet of all who will enter this divine relationship. You are calling Him to witness your vows. Hear what His word says this involves: "The wife shall submit herself unto her husband as unto the Lord." "The husband shall be the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church and the Savior of the body." "As the church is subject to Christ so shall the wife be to her husband in everything." "The husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church." "Let the man love his wife as himself and let the wife reverence her husband."

Thus, the marriage relationship is intimate and sacred, hallowed even to the extent that all other human relationships are forsaken for this new one. You, Kerry and Mark, will never show more respect for one another than when you manifest true love, devotion and concern for each other and conversely you will never show less regard for yourselves and heaven's will than when you abuse this Holy Order and you can do this by brutality or by neglect.

#### WILL YOU JOIN RIGHT HANDS

Do you, Mark, take this woman whom you now hold by the right hand to be your lawfully wedded wife? Do you promise to love and cherish her in sickness and in health? Will you provide for her in prosperity and adversity and forsaking all others, cleave to her and to her alone until death.

Do you, Kerry, take this man whose right hand you now hold to be your lawful wedded husband and do by him the part of a faithful wife? Do you promise to love and honor him in sickness and in health and in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, cleave unto him until death you do part?

#### ARE THERE RINGS?

For centuries rings have been used as tokens of pledges made in good faith and as seals of sacred vows honorably declared. As you give these rings and receive them you are pledging yourselves one to the other to discharge fully and faithfully those responsibilities that are yours in view of your new relationship. Furthermore the circular nature of the ring symbolizes the eternal nature of this sacred union you are now forming. The almost indestructable nature of the precious metal out of which it is formed symbolizes your indestructable devotion and love for one another. May your love last longer than these rings.

TO MARK, AS HE PLACES RING ON KERRY'S HAND \*\*\*\*\* Repeat after me. With this ring - I thee wed - and with all my goods - I thee endow - my name, my home - my hand, my life - my all - until death separates.

TO KERRY, AS SHE PLACES RING ON MARK'S FINGER \*\*\*\*\* Repeat after me - Unto your gracious offer - I gladly respond - and with a like token - I pledge you - the loyalty of my life - the love of my heart - and the devotion of my soul - and I promise you - your faithful wife - to be forever.

AND NOW BY THE AUTHORITY INVESTED IN ME AS A MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST, I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU HUSBAND AND WIFE.

SHALL WE PRAY TOGETHER? And we pray our Father, that the smile of thy face and the consolation of thy peace and the sunshine of thy love may be theirs to enjoy as they entwine their hearts, enlarge their love and build their home. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.....Amen.

January 5, 1976

Dear Family,

How is the weather? Right now it is 19° here with a wind chill factor of 7°, and about 4 inches of snow on the ground. Weather like this is only pleasing to a malamute. We took him to the park Sunday and let him play on the ice and the snow. There were people actually skiing at the park. Josh of course looked like he really belonged in the snow.

Guess what we found? A husky that was marked just like Josh? We ran an ad in the paper and he was claimed ~~as~~ by a couple in Kansas. He had been stolen by some black kids in their neighborhood and then just traded around I guess till he ended up in our neighborhood. Anyway we got a 10\$ reward!!!

Mark bought Josh a doghouse. It looks just like Snoopy's. It is white with red shingles on the roof. He hasn't gone ~~in~~ in it yet and I doubt he ever will, I ~~just~~ just felt guilty leaving him out in the freezing rain.

Kirk, Mark is using your bank. It is about half full of pennies. I robbed it this morning to buy donuts on the way to work. It sets on the chest right under the poster of the raccoon.

So, when are ya'll coming back to K.C?? Is mom saving her money so she can fly???ha!

We have been fairly busy. Last nite we had a lasagne dinner with a couple from church and Lee and Cheryl, Jay and Shelley, ~~and~~ They were all over at our house Sunday nite for Hot chocolate.

Last nite at 3 am I woke up to the sound of the cat banging around in the kitchen. He got his tail stuck in a spoon that had honey on it. The fur was matted to the spoon and he was dragging it around on the kitchen table!!! Something exciting like that happens at least twice a week.

Did ya'll watch the movie Green Eyes? Mom did you recognize the lady ~~as~~ as being Laura's daughter from Dr. Zvago? Remember when it first started and the Russian was questioning the young girl? Well, that was the social worker in Vietnam/

I have a sore throat and feel lousy. I have felt worse this winter than ever before. I think I'm just tired.

I still want to buy Joshua a sled and harness. Kirk maybe you could save your money! I think he is strong enough this winter to pull, and I'm sure by next winter he will really be a brute.

Well, I better close. Farewell.

love,

kerry

Dear Donna,

Oct 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday

It was so good to get your letter & picture of Tessa. She's a cutie!

It's hard to believe that 5 years ago we were all up at "The Pines" for our wedding. A lot has happened in 5 years!

This is a typical Saturday. Mark is working... & gets off around 2:00. I am supposed to be studying my algebra -- but I've found plenty of other interesting things to occupy my time thus far. I finished a log cabin baby quilt - did you know we're going to have a baby? Sometime in March. ~~Dear~~ We are very excited. We will still be in the dorm in March but hope to move to a house in May. We are trying to buy Mark's brothers home (as they are moving to a mansion!) but I don't know if everything will go through.

I'm glad y'all have a house. I know it would be wonderful. We haven't had a yard since we lived in that little house in Seacrest. We still have Josh, & also Muffin (a calico cat that Mark

God is so good picked up at the



grocery store from kids with a box of "free kittens")  
Marks such a sucker for cute kitties!

We went to camp again this summer. This time we took the church bus with 18 kids. They loved it. It was really good for them to be exposed to people Christians from ~~all~~ lots of different places.

We are planning on going to Homecoming, but I'm sorry y'all can't be there. We enjoyed visiting with you last year.

Last weekend we went to Bennet Springs, a trout fishing resort in Southern Missouri. We stayed with Cheryl's grandparents. Cheryl & Lee, Cheryl's parents, & Marks parents & us go down every fall for the weekend. The weather was just beautiful & it was wonderful to be out in the woods. There are no woods near Kansas City!

I went to Leavenworth with Marks folks for a development council meeting. We stayed with Jay & Shelley on the way home. (They live in Harrison, ARK) They have a little girl, Leanne, but she is not a very pleasant child. She is 20 mos. old & is very fussy.

Then Mark & I stayed with Kathy (my maid of honor) on the way home from Bennet Springs. She has a precious girl, Kristin who is 17 mos. old & just

adorable. Mark is in love with her. We would be very happy (& surprised!) to have a girl.

I wonder why some kids are sweet & some are obnoxious? Do you have any clues?

I so much want for our child to be sweet & enjoy people. People just don't enjoy a fussy kid!

I'm taking a pre natal exercise class & swimming & walking regularly. Mark & I even played racquetball last night. I got tired very quickly. I do not want to gain a lot of x-tra weight but I'm afraid I already have. With all these stretchy clothes it's hard to know when you're gaining too much!

Well, take care. Let us hear from you again at Christmas. Send another picture with all of you in it!

Much love,

Kerry

Dear Donna ,

Aug 4, 1983

It was good to get your letter and beautiful pictures. Enclosed you'll find our latest pictures! We are still trying to find a good time to come visit you. We usually plan a trip to Arkansas in the fall for Homecoming. Mark is still looking into continuing education classes in Dallas. We really want to get with you soon!

Now to answer all your questions

Q How did we end up back in KC? Well,

Mark felt like his being in the clinic was a dead end. We were visiting Marks folks after Lee & Cheryls baby was born ~~on~~ in December, and this guy at church told Mark about a dentist who had been killed in a car wreck a few days earlier. Well, Mark made some phone calls & got to "interview" with the dentist's wife. He left a wife & 3 children, 10, 7, & 4.

Anyway she decided she would like for Mark to buy the practice & from then it took trying to get a loan - no small feat - and signing the contracts. We are about 30 minutes from Marks folks & Jim & Sandy & Lee & Cheryl. We live in a subdivision but there are cows and horses just 5 houses down.

Anyway, to make a long story longer - ~~all~~  
We feel very lucky to be here. We  
prayed about it, so I guess it's not luck.  
Mark likes the girls in the office. They  
had worked together for 5 years so they  
helped make the transition smoother.

2) Now about homelife - both kids are  
asleep right now so I thought writing  
you was a now or never deal. ~~Now~~  
Their naps rarely coincide anymore  
which makes it a long day. Kathryn  
has slept thru the night since she was  
about 6 wks. old. Jonathan still  
wakes up twice at least! I feel  
really exhausted most of the time. He  
likes Kathryn - why shouldn't he? He  
still takes almost all my attention!

I got to go to La Leche League's 9th  
International Conference last week. I  
just went for one day. Mark kept Jonathan  
& I took Kathryn. Can you imagine 3,000  
people - all with small children! It was  
very interesting. I attended the classes  
on "Nursing Sibling who aren't twins".

Yes, Jonathan is still nursing, I think  
Kathryn will wean before he does.

I find parenting the most difficult  
thing I've ever attempted. The hours  
are bad, ect! Worst of all, there seems

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thing I've ever attempted. The hours  
are bad, ect! Worst of all, there seems

to be very little that's "Black and White." A lot of grey area that I'm just not sure about - discipline, potty training, ~~etc etc etc~~ How to get them to bed! Do you ever feel like you wish you really had some concrete answers - or do you feel like you do?

Mark finds it hard to exercise too. He had been running in the morning but he's not very regular. I think ~~that~~ neat that you are working with weights.

One summer while we were dorm directors I used to go to the weight room & work out. What kind of weights do you use? Do you do it after the kids are asleep?

I'm going to Weight Watchers faithfully every wk. try to get the 60 (can you believe it?) pounds I gained w/ Kathryn off. I've lost 44 lbs so far. I try to walk everyday, ~~but~~ but that will be harder when it starts getting dark earlier. I'm going to start aerobic classes next week & I'm excited about that.

Kathryn woke up! Did Laguna tell you that Jim & Sandy had adopted a boy - David Ryan. Shelley & Jay are expecting their 3<sup>rd</sup> in October. I better

close now. Enclosed are our  
latest pictures.

Lots of love,

Kerry

Set hours of bird trapping after  
arrived at our camp last night  
at the lake. When we got up this  
morning I had an idea about it  
so was excited to see what  
would happen. I took the  
first bird at 6:30 AM. I am

fluffing out my coat and  
putting on my hat and  
gloves and I had a  
few feet of string, when I  
saw a bird stop still. I stopped  
and took a look and I saw

that bird. It was the same  
one I had just seen a minute ago. I  
was so excited I ran over to it and

10/13/81

MARK R. TROTTER, D.D.S.  
VALLEY VIEW MEDICAL BUILDING  
8600 WEST 95TH STREET  
OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS 66212  
TELEPHONE (913) 642-2877

Hello Hello!

It was so good to get your letter! I have been planning on writing, but have wanted to wait to get my pictures of Jonathan at 7 months back from T & G. The 5 month picture was taken at Camp Tahkodah by Mike Jones. I had wanted him to do a picture of us there so he came while we were at camp <sup>this summer</sup> & took one. I was so glad to get the precious picture of Gessa & Christopher. Gessa is beautiful & Christopher is a doll. <sup>I had</sup> just read in the Hardin Bulletin that they had adopted. That's very exciting news.

Yes my brother has moved & the last I heard he was still looking for a job. I think they are staying with his wife's parents in Yakima.

I hope things go as smoothly as possible in your move. Moves never are easy! I have had a not so easy time with this move. I feel pretty ~~housebound~~ housebound with the baby & ~~its been~~ it just doesn't feel like home yet. It is

very important for me to feel at home. We like the church. It is a congregation of about 200 with 2 elders, one of which lives at the end of our block. He & his wife have been very good to us & I feel like God has blessed us in finding a nice house & friends.

I understand about having to move for your husbands work. Sometimes when I get especially lonesome I think "we had friends in Kansas City!" But then I remember it took me 3-4 years before I felt like Kansas City was home. And Mark has an opportunity here that he would have never had in K.C. There are no "specialists" in the dental field here (periodontists, oral surgeons, etc.) so Mark is having to do a lot of work that he would have referred elsewhere. He feels like he will be a better dentist here. Jonathan is precious (he drives me crazy sometimes!) He has 4 teeth now & chews on everything. He looks like Marks' baby pictures.

Later - Fri. The pictures from T6 & you were terrible. I was so disappointed!

I wish you would stop to see us in Coffeyville if you're ever going this way. We think about y'all often. Love, Kenny

**Sheraton Hotels  
at West Port**

**Sheraton  
West Port Inn**

**Sheraton  
Plaza Hotel**

Aug 3, 1983

Dear Doris,

I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed visiting with you at camp. I am sure God sends people like you into my life for a special reason.

I've thought so much about your situation and I know God is working thru you for whatever reason He has in mind. You are a beautiful example of "Let the Beauty of Jesus Be Seen in Me". Thank you for being that example!

Mark & I are in St. Louis this weekend at a money management seminar for dentists and doctors. It has been very interesting. We've left the kids for the weekend - the 1<sup>st</sup> time ever! We're staying at a Hotel with a running track around a beautiful pond with ducks and a man made stream.

My kids had a wonderful time at camp & Mark & I did too. It's such a treat to visit with the Sharps & the Bells & just to be at camp. Again, I enjoyed our visit & I'm thinking about you.

Kerry



Letter written  
to Doris Romine  
1983

Letter written  
to Anne Ryan

Aug. 1997

Dear Anne,

It was wonderful visiting with you on the phone this week. Congratulations to Heather! I'm so excited for her. Jonathan wants to go to the wedding! He's taking flying lessons and hopes to have his licence by his 17th birthday - in February. Someone donated money for him to learn to fly. He's interested in mission aviation. Anyway, he'd love to see the Air Force Academy & meet Damon.

I read two of Mickey Bonner's books - Brokenness, the forgotten factor of Prayer and Answer to the Critical Christian - Keep your Mouth Shut! They are challenging! If you're interested his address is:

Mickey Bonner Evangelistic Association  
P.O. Box 680368  
Houston, TX 77268

I'll be praying for y'all as you travel to Israel. I hope it will be a wonderful time for your family to be together. Enclosed is a current picture of the kids. I had this made for Mark's office. It's very large ~~and~~ and

"And he will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers" ... Mal 4:6

she gets lots of comments!

God bless you all as you prepare for a very busy fall! With love - Karen

P.S. Jonathan would love to meet Daymen!

Thanks for your support in  
prayer!

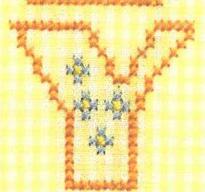
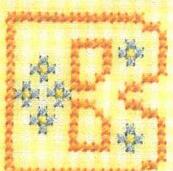
I sure thought of you the  
weekend of Oct 25. I watched  
the news & wondered how it would  
all work out. You will indeed ~~have~~ have  
precious memories.

I finished radiation today & start  
chemo next Friday.

I have a precious baby boy. Only  
God's timing could have given us such  
a gift at such ~~another~~ a difficult  
time. It all makes me very thankful to  
have let God have his way with our  
children. I would never have "planned"  
a baby 9 months ago. Nine months ago I  
had 4 in diapers!! After chemo - there  
will be no more children... so I'm  
very thankful for this last one - thankful  
that he's healthy, thankful that he's a boy -  
thankful that he's here to make an  
otherwise sad time a truly joyous one.  
So much for man's plans! I think I could  
have forfeited that with my plans. I hope  
you're enjoying married life. Call us if we can ever  
visit you in Lawrence. Love, Kerry

Letter/Christmas  
card sent to  
Heather Ryan Tiffany  
1997

We Have Our First



Jonathan's Birth Announcement  
1981

Thank You  
For Our Baby's Gift



We Have A New Baby!



1983

Kathryn's Birth Announcement  
1983

Donna & Jerry,

Well, he finally arrived  
wed. night Feb 25. we  
were really excited. Jerry &  
Jonathan are both doing  
very well.

The picture was taken at  
2 1/2 days just before leaving  
the hospital to go home Sat  
morning.

He has been so good  
sleeping & eating w/ very  
little crying and then only  
to let us know he's wet or  
hungry.

Jonathan's anxious to come  
to Wash. & meet you & Teressa.

Hope everything is going well  
for you

Love in Christ  
Mark & Jerry

Our home  
And brig  
And here's  
There's a s

Name Joy

Date 2-

Weight 8

Parents He

He is real

Dear Jerry & Donna, 2-17-83

Hope everyone at your  
house is fine.

We have a daughter -  
how exciting!

We got to come home  
from the hospital 10 hrs.  
after she was born. People  
thought I was crazy for

coming home - but I don't  
see how anyone can  
possibly rest in the hospital!

We were all up all night  
last night. After being up  
all night the night before.

NAME

DATE OF

WEIGHT

PARENTS

We we  
Zam &  
6:15 am  
Right  
& Kathy

We Have Our First

Jonathan's Birth Announcement  
1981

W E L C O M E  
B A Y B Y  
J O H N A O N  
T H O M A S  
E V A

Dear Jerry & Donna

So glad to hear  
you're in your own place.  
I can't believe it's been  
such a long time since  
we've seen y'all.

I've been very sick after  
a D&C & then an infection.  
Mark's folks came down this  
weekend to help out - Betty  
immediately ~~clashed~~ cleaned  
under my kitchen sink! I  
wouldn't want anyone under  
my kitchen sink. Dirt bothers

1983



Kathryn's Birth Announcement  
1983

Dear Red Bridge Family,

We find ourselves again in the place learning that "His strength is made perfect in our weakness" and "His grace is sufficient." We thank God for our Red Bridge family that has always been there to encourage us and love us in the past and for the assurance that you will be there for us in the future.

Seventeen and 1/2 years ago, in the summer of 1980 I was 3 1/2 months pregnant with Jonathan and it was literally 110°. Diane Finley and I made an 8 hour trip together in an unairconditioned bus with 30 teenagers to Arkansas. At that time we were both attending the Overland Park church. She told me about these "Brush Creek People" who had been there for her and Glen when she and Mike were seriously injured in a car accident years before. She said these people were willing to do anything and everything that she needed them to do. She mentioned names like Al Duer. I never forgot that conversation.

Three years later we found ourselves placing membership with these "Brush Creek people" who had now turned into the Red Bridge church.

We found out that everything Diane had said was true when in 1987 our third child died. You met our every need. You cried with us, you prayed for us, you helped take care of Jonathan & Kathryn and you brought food. Most of all you encouraged us with your love and support.

When Anna was born in ~~198~~ 1993 and diagnosed as having Down Syndrome you again poured out your love to us.

Please know that this love can be felt through hospital walls. Your prayers have literally held us up and we acknowledge our dependence on you to hold us up to God now and in the coming days & months. I know that God is pleased that the legacy of Brush Creek exists still today in the outpouring of love from one to another. We love you all so very much and look forward to being at Red Bridge together as a family. I can't wait for you to meet Andrew.

With love,

Kerry