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21 Derby St.,
Vancluse, N.S.W., Australia
Feb. 25, 1963

Dear Dr Tape,

Thank you for your very kind letter of sympathy on Joe's death. Yes, he deteriorated very rapidly after you saw him on Wednesday. The sudden burst of energy, as evidenced in the remark he made to you when you said you hoped some of the people from Green Bank would be over here again -- that "next time you must have some specific object in coming over", and you assured him that next time there would be a definite research program -- was the last he had. In fact, I don't think he even spoke to me again. I like to think that his last thoughts were of Green Bank to which he had been looking forward with so much pleasure.

Thursday morning when I went in he looked awful and gave no sign of recognition, though he ate some lunch which I fed him and I think he knew I was there. The boys and I went in again in the evening, but still no sign that he recognized us. The doctor expected him to live 2 or 3 more days, but he passed away about 3:00 a.m. that night.

He naturally had a few qualms after having accepted the position, but he told me that after the few days he had in Green Bank in March, and meeting the staff, he was completely happy about things and felt that with the co-operation of people there, and A.U.I. behind him, he could make a success of things.

I appreciated very much your coming out to the hospital that Wednesday, knowing how you were pressed for time.

The letters to the A.U.I. people -- Charles Dunbar, Max Small, Dave Heeschen and yourself, are the hardest ones I have to write, and I have been putting them off as long as possible. You were all so kind to us over there -- both personally and as an organization, and I do feel, as you said you hoped I would, that I belong to the "A.U.I. family". I have written to Charles Dunbar asking him to convey my thanks to A.U.I. for all they did for us but I want to tell you personally again how much we both appreciated your help. With no obligation to take on such a burden, you were more than generous, and as I told Charles Dunbar, Joe felt that he was associated with a very "human" organization.

The Australian Academy of Sciences has asked me to deposit with them in their archives "any material, personal or published, which will throw light on Joe as a scientist and as a man" -- such things as diaries, manuscripts, personal letters, letters to scientific colleagues, and of course a complete set of his published papers etc. I don't know how much of his correspondence to A.U.I. is still in existence or how much they would be prepared to give to the Academy. In particular, I have a copy of his notes on "future policy of Green Bank" which he gave you in Princeton. Would it be in order to give that. Of course, a lot of sorting and discarding will have to be done in collaboration with the librarian, but the first thing to do is collect material. This report was his second last major effort.

The last was the editing of a Radio Astronomy issue of the Australian Institute of Radio Engineers which he planned a year or so ago. This he took up again after his return home, read over 20 papers from various countries, and wrote the editorial, which he finished only a few days before he went into hospital. The issue comes out this month or next and I will try to see that you receive a copy.

The obituary in the Feb. issue of "Nature" written by Paul Wild is beautifully gone. If I could I would do without Joe myself to give him back to the world of science. He had still so much to contribute.

It was wonderful seeing you and Dave again and a great satisfaction to Joe to know you had at last visited Australia. It was comparatively easy being brave while he was alive. It is much harder now he is gone.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lenore Pawsey