

Dear Folks: (George & Fredericka Fianning)

Dec. 23/24, 1960 (George Fianning, Junior)

I know you are anxious to have an account of my trip to George's funeral in Florida. I was indeed glad that I was able to go and pay my respect and yours to our Christian son and brother. I am satisfied and I know most of all you will be happy and most pleased to know that George died fully forgiven of all sins and as a child of god in the manner in which he had been trained as a small boy. Understanding his last days helped me to reconstruct his life and know that basically George was a good man as trained, but confused by a psychological block that occurred when our mother died. His sins were the sins of the flesh and not of the spirit. These are the easiest to be forgiven by Christ, so the Prodigal Son came home in true Christian fashion, so I think we should rejoice that God provided the way for George to find himself. George probably struggled harder to find himself than any of the rest of us. We have shared our troubles with one another, but George bore them alone, seldom bothering others with his troubles.

The most significant thing I found out, for which we can rejoice, is the fact that George in his last days became quite interested in the church and with the help of Mr. Joseph Logio, Venetian Isle, Boynton Beach, Fla. who recognized George's need and led him to a reprofession of his faith and immersion on Sun. Nov. 6, 1960. George did this on his own. I thanked Mr. Logio, but I thought you might like to also. He said George knew that his days were numbered and tried to prepare himself. Rev. Wm. Fred Sliger also told me of George's profession and appreciated the fine manner in which he came. This he mentioned in his funeral.

According to the Death Certificate, he died of a sub-arachnoid hemorrhage aneurysm-cerebral vessel at 11:50 A.M. Sun. Dec. 18, 1960 at the Palm Beach General Hospital in Lake Worth. He had been in a coma since Sat. noon. The attending physician was Dr. A. Scott Turk, Lake Worth. He also had a neuro-surgeon, Dr. Schwab. On Friday they had injected dyes and x-rayed to locate the hemorrhage that had shown in an earlier spinal tap at the time of his entrance in the hospital. This was right after his first black out at home on Tues. Dec. 13th. He had high blood pressure, but had not been treating it. Most of the time when he had headaches he would go only to a Chiropractor. He had been to one the previous Sat., but this time he got no relief.

I arrived at Lake Worth by Bus from Tampa at 10:30 P.M. Tues. I was most cordially met by Peggie and her son-in-law Harold T. Goffe. We drove out to their nice home southwest of Lake Worth. Bonnie fixed me some lunch and we had a nice visit until 1 A.M. I stayed at a motel and walked to the nearby funeral home in the morning. George looked very nice. He recently had brought his weight down to 175 lbs. and it was difficult for me not to picture him as being fleshy since I had not seen him in so long. His long brown pompadour hair with slightly gray temples was typical. He wore Horn-rimmed glasses with gold temple bars and still showed his light freckles. He had been working as a salesman on salary and commission for the Babcock Furniture Co. Harold and Bonnie have four lovely children, Diane 13, three boys, Tom, 11, Mark 6, and Kenneth 4. I enjoyed my visit with them. Also Bill Fianning and his aunt Grace Ryan, 4141 El Prado Blvd., Miami, Fla. attended the funeral. Bill is majoring in Math and finishes at the Univ. of Miami this year. I visited with them shortly before the funeral, but missed seeing them further at the cemetery while I talked to Joe Logio. After spending the night on the bus to Tampa and flying to Ft. Worth, I arrived home Thurs. Eve at 6, tired but happy I could make the trip for a loved one. I wept alone on the bus knowing that I could not help George, but thru Christ I might help others as others had helped George. 12/22/60

Lovingly,

Robert Louis Fianning
Bob (12/25/17 - 8/28/2005)

File: George William Fianning