May 23, 1945

Dear Bill,

Yes, this mourning paper brings you a very painful new: my poor Grand mother, my "Mémé" is dead.[42] Since I came back from Paris, she was not well at all, but we never thought her end so near and so fast… Do you remember when you saw her at home? She looked already weak, and she suffered much with her rheumatisms.[43] We had been accustomed to see her like that for several years, but this winter she caught a bad cold which turned in slow congestion and she could not be cured. Yes, really, death is close to life. My dear Mémé died on Monday the 14th and, on this very day, she had been glad to see and my brother and my cousin, our two soldiers who, by chance, were in Nice at the same time. Jacques had just come the day before. Poor kid, what a rest!!![44] While I write to you, he rolls again towards his camp… And, for the first time, my mother and I we are alone at home…Excuse me, Billie, with my so sad beginning. I turn the page. Your last letter came to me very slowly and since I receive it I wonder if one of mine have not been lost: the one in which I told you about my holidays in Paris? Well, now I wait very anxiously the white cloth. But, you know, Billie, as for paying it I can't forget about it. Will you remember: I talked the first and I asked you if you could not buy for me a white cloth. So, that can't be a gift. And, as I think you will come very soon in Nice, be sure I talked again about it because I am shamed. That is bad for I just planned to ask you an another service.[45] My mother, indeed, used to wear pink linen, but now, with her mourning she can't. I ran along in many shops here without finding anything plain white and I heard of a girl friend of mine there is still silk stuff in Italy. Will you be reasonable, Billie?[46] And may I ask you again to buy a plain white silk stuff to make linen (7 meters= 8 yards)? But, please, listen to me: as soon as you buy it, you write to me how much my mother has to send you, or I mail it back and if you can bring it, I decline it if you don't accept its reimbursement Billie, don't be angry with me if I did not send you my portrait. I don't forget about it but I have not been yet to the photographer. May be I have been lazy, may be I have been too busy. Be sure and I'll make up mind and I'll keep my promise. Good night, Billie. It is not very late (for me) but the last days have been tiring and I

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[42] Endearing name for Grandmother, similar to "granny."

[43] Rheumatism is a disease that is marked by inflammation and pain of the joints.

[44] xx

[45] *favor*

[46] *will you buy some within reason?*

feel quite sleep. So long–

Sincerely yours

Suzanne

Congratulations to your brother for his deserved medal and greeting for his best health again.[47]

[47]Billy and his two younger brothers Edwin and David all served in the United States Armed Forces during WWII. Eddie volunteered at 19 at Camp Topaz in Utah. During his service, Eddie was badly wounded by a gunshot and was most likely awared a medal of honor afterwards though it is unclear exactly which medal was given to him.