

July 30, 1973

Dear Mr. + Mrs. Epps:

My daughter, Aichi, just called to tell us the shocking and sorrowful news of Lonnie.

We still cannot quite accept that he is gone.

These past difficult years have brought so many changes to youths, youths like Lonnie who have been in search of something real and meaningful in life.

How sad that ~~someone~~ like Lonnie, ~~who~~ with all his potentials, ~~is~~ ^{is now} ~~denied~~ a chance ~~of~~ ^{to do} whatever he may have hoped for.

~~Can she remember the first~~

time I met him ... so eager &

~~He was eager at first~~
He had so ~~many~~ ^{many} motivations,
~~he had~~ to do some
~~and~~ aspirations constructive
and helpful to ~~people~~ ^{people}. He was due
to ~~die~~ ^{die}, ~~years~~ ^{years} and had been one
He was ~~gone~~ through the
quite recently. ~~He did not know, however~~
usual period ~~of~~ that he ~~was~~ ^{had} gone to ~~Panama~~
through the ~~news~~ ^{news} of his ~~death~~ ^{death} was a ~~blow~~ ^{blow} sudden blow.

In a world of so many
temptations and lures, false
idols, and superficial values,
that phase of youth, growing to
maturity, is a difficult one.

How sorry we are that his
life was cut short ~~before he~~
could ~~realize~~ ^{live} ~~his~~ ^{his} ~~dreams~~ ^{dreams} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~hopes~~

We share your sorrow in
your great loss. ... ~~your~~ ^{your} ~~soul~~

Affectionately,
Mary Koch-j