

The following text represents a letter from Ferd E. White to Robert's wife talking about how they had met, what he was told about the circumstances of his death and giving his condolences. It was typed EXACTLY as it appears in the original

---

Germany

May 21, 1945

My Dear Mrs. Lucas,

I seen Pete today & he told me that he had a letter from you & that you wanted me to write. It is hard for me to write this letter because I have never had an experience like this before.

Lou [Lucas], Pete and I had been pals since they joined us back in **GRUBER** over a year ago. I met Lou one day on K.P. He & I always chummed around together after that. I met Pete through Lou & then we all chummed around to-gether. In the states, we were together all the time. When we got overseas & combat the company was always split up. There is three platoons to a company. Lou & I was in the 3rd & Pete is in the 2nd. I was on the same crew with Lou until they needed a driver on another gun so they put me driving on another gun. After that I would see Lou about once in every two or three days. Every time we got together, we would sit & talk about what had happened. No matter how far down the chips were he was always laughing. He was the best natured kid I think I ever met.

When I heard that he had got hurt, I couldn't believe it. I still can't hardly believe that he is gone. From what I heard he and some other boys were demolishing a Jerry tank. The tank started to blow & he got hit in the arm. They said he complained of his chest hurting. I think he must have had internal injuries also. That was all I was told about it.

He had told me about you writing & saying that he was going to have an accident but he would get home. At first I thought it was going to be like that but it wasn't.

There isn't much more to write about Mrs. Lucas so I guess I will close for this time. I hope these few lines find you & the boy in the best of health & to hear from you in the near future. Take care of the boy & try to bring him up to be the man that Lou was. Until I hear from you I remain.

As ever,  
Ferd E. White