

Dear Jane,

It was very sweet of you to send me the sad news of Özer's sudden death. I was ring up the next morning and if I had pulled myself together I could have got myself to the meeting and the funeral on the Monday and now, of course, I wish I had although I am told the rain was Istanbul at its worst and since I am recovering from a bad winter I suppose I would have had to remain in the car.

I have never had a better friend in my life than Özer who I have known for 37 years including those fruitless months in London where Ayma was not cured in the Royal Free Hospital. We first met on his return from the U.S. and were friends from that first day. Perhaps the most wonderful & carefree time was when we went for a week to Marmara Island together & had a stormy trip to the quays: coming back only Özer cut have cut us through a major wave — while I spent my time trailing with a bucket! The next day the fisherman said that the Navy was to lift the ban on foreigners visiting Paşa Luvar Adası — foreigners meant anyone not living on the island. Of course, we went and found paradise & vowed we would build a house there. And Özer did and both I and Gillian and Bertie had wonderful holidays there where no tourist had for 20 years and even now not much building has happened. The islanders worshipped Özer and he became the unofficial Beylerbey... And so on. As you know, I spend eight or nine weeks at Paşagücü teaching in the Summer School but without Özer Istanbul is going to seem empty. If I do finally decide to go for a final summer, I hope to see you since I have every intention of spending a few days in Ankara in June: and I very much hope to see you. There is also Yula who said I suppose I have to go to an orphanage now — Her mother's brother has offered her a home for a spell to see how it goes and I am told that she is very adult for a 16 year old so has taken the shock remarkably well — a true Ottoman. But I do not want to lose touch.

I have to thank you for a very pretty card but I do not know whether I shall attend the conference or not. I have not even answered the document. This is partly because I do not think that anyone would be interested (except perhaps yourself) in going into the

- (a) structural roots of Ottoman architecture which worked so well.
- (b) influences of past structures in Turkey: columns to give one elementary example.
- (c) Relationships in the mathematics of structure from Asia, Egypt, Europe etc.

It was so very kind of you to write to me and I do thank you for your thoughtfulness. I do hope to see you in Ankara; if all goes well. My best regards in peace. With my warmest good wishes,
Godfrey

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