

Seaton House,
St Andrews.
Tuesday June 19th ,1898

My Dear Jeannie,

I have been from home and it is only tonight that I have heard the sad and unexpected news of the death of one who has been for thirty years one of my best and truest friends.

Had I been at home and received the letter in time, I would have come through, and been with those who laid his dear and honoured head in the dust.

But since that is denied me, I can only send you a letter to assure you that my hearts heart is with you in this great trial which God has sent upon you.

I have known John, as you know, ever since I knew anything, and have always considered him a man truly great by reason of his noble uprightness, his scorn of anything wrong or mean, and his constant desire for the good of others.

May God, the help of the widow, be with you at this time. The good Lord of Heaven and Earth has your loved one in his keeping. He has done his day's work well. Now he has gone to the Master to get his wages.

The necessities of the world have taken us far asunder, but if you have read my books you will know that I have never ceased to think lovingly and warmly of John and you, and my first and dearest friend Robert Crocket, the brother whom he has gone to rejoin.

I need not say that if at any time I can do anything to lighten your path, to help, or to advise, I will go infinitely far to do it.

With all love to you
I am Dear Jeannie,
Ever truly your friend
S.R. Crockett