

San Antonio Texas  
June 7- 43.

Mrs Georgia Gianakopoulos  
is the mother of a very fine boy -  
Johnny Gianakopoulos.

Mrs Pappas and myself have enjoyed  
the company of your son very much  
since we have met him sometimes  
during Easter tide.

We are going to miss Johnny very  
much when he leaves our city.  
Trusting we will meet again after it  
is all over and renew our friendship.

In close is a prayer say it often so  
we can feel sure he will return to  
you safely after this war is all over.

Would love to hear from you -  
Trusting this note will find you enjoying  
good health

Remain  
Mrs. B. D. Pappas  
1418 W. Poplar St.

OBJECT ID	2011.6.173
OBJECT NAME	Letter
DATE CREATED	June 7, 1943
MATERIAL	Paper
OBJECT ENTITIES	Karalis, Elena (is related to) Gianakopoulos, Johnny (is related to) Gianakopoulos, Georgia (is related to) Pappas, B. (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	Mrs. B. D. Pappas Prayer War

#### OBJECT DESCRIPTION

A letter to Georgia Gianakopoulos from Mrs. B. D. Pappas in San Antonio, Texas on June 7, 1943. It is a letter talking about how Johnny Gianakopoulos was a great guest in the Pappas home and she looks forward to staying in touch with him and the family. She sends a prayer card to Georgia so they can say it often and hope that Johnny returns safe. Mrs. Pappas includes her address at the bottom of the letter.

#### ORIGIN

The donors grandfather, Gus Gianakopoulos, came to America with 200 youths from the Sparta area around the time of 1881. Mr. Chaconas was in charge of the trip and when they arrived in Chicago all 200 of them were put in one room together and bought each one of them a push wagon. The group of people would sell one product a day using their push wagons. In 1893 the Gus became a US citizen and was working in the fruit and vegetable wholesale business. He later went back to Greece to visit but called the US his country. In 1900 a few men went back to Greece to get married and on their way back they brought the donors grandmother, Georgia, to Chicago, where her father and brother were. Gus and Georgia got married in December

1901 at the Holy Trinity Church and they invited all Greeks and the story is that there were 98 carriages that attended the reception. They had several children, first a boy then a girl named Daisy, then the donor's mother Pauline, next were two sisters, Virginia and Eleanor, and last was John. The Spartans in the area started a church in a building on South Water Street, but the priest had decided to go back to Greece. In 1908-1909 they built what is now the Annunciation Cathedral on LaSalle Street and in 1910 the church was completed. This church is where the whole family was baptized, married, and buried. The family lived on the north side of Chicago so any Greek schools were too far away for them to attend so a Greek teacher came in Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 25 years. The donor's mother, Pauline went to Forest Academy to study dress design and not much after that she met her husband and moved to Minneapolis in 1929. The two worked and helped out the church they were members of quite a bit. They traveled a lot and often went to Greece but in 1970 he passed away. They had two children, George and Elena and after her husband passed away Pauline and Elena went on many different trips around the world.

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#### CITATION

Letter, June 7, 1943, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 12/19/25.

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