

Oct. 4, 2012

The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman,

I am writing to you in regards to my health care benefits. My late husband Richard was a heavy equipment operator. He worked 24 years and many long hard hours in coal mine construction in Illinois, Alabama, and West Virginia. He loved his work.

Unfortunately in December of 1999 he was diagnosed with lung cancer, which I am sure was caused by breathing in all the coal dust & asbestos from the old mines. All the radiation and Chemo he had failed. He was forced to retire. He drew only one retirement check. He passed away in November 2000 at the young age of 64.

All along I have been grateful for the UMWA Health and Retirement Funds which gave me \$212.81 per month for the 1974 Pension Plan and \$1,016.50 per month minus \$458.00 health insurance ending up with \$558.50. That is for the UMWA 1985 Construction Workers Pension Plan.

Sorry to say, if they take these away from me, I cannot survive on Social Security alone. That's why I am writing this letter.

How would you like it if they would take your benefits away from you right underneath your nose, like they are trying to do with us. I truly don't think they care about us older folks. Who is going to give us jobs at our ages.

It's very sad that these big coal companies want to take these benefits away from us, especially when we were promised these for life. My husband loved his work, and would be working today if the cancer hadn't taken him. He was an excellant operator, and a proud supporter of the KMWA, as I am today.

I am hoping this letter will help in some way for us to keep our benefits. Thanking you in advance.

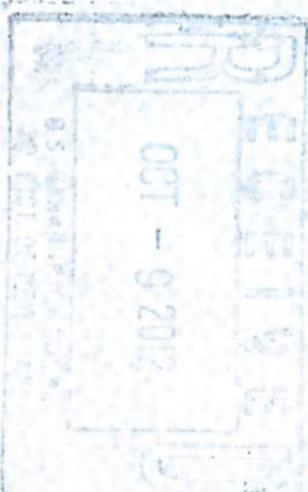
Sincerely,
Carol A. Markus

Proud Supporter of the KMWA.

P.S. My husband belonged to United Mine Workers District 12 in Gl. and District 20 in Gl.

Carol J. Mansue
17 Regal Dr., Apt. B
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OCT - 9 2012



The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman

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