

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
September 26, 1955

"Blessed Are They Who Die In The Lord!"

Among members of the Notre Dame family, there is a tradition of charity in remembering the dead, the sick, the unfortunate. Be generous to those asking your prayers. Some far-off day, when you need help, somehow your need will be brought to our attention. And it will be comforting to know that another generation of Notre Dame men will kneel and pray for you when you need help most.

The past summer was not free of tragedy in the lives of Notre Dame students. Listed below are some fatalities that have come to our attention:

Deceased: Lieut. David Kennedy, '52, of the Army Air Corps, who died in a plane accident in July; Foster Pacard, '54, a Navy diver, accidentally killed in July; Bill Ahern, a Freshmen in Farley last year, died of leukemia; Chet Wynne, Jr. and Phil Veasart, both Senior Law students, were killed in a plane accident in Chicago in July, as they were returning from ROTC training; Joe Leptak, an Off-Campus Junior, died in St. Joseph's Hospital, South Bend after a long illness; Robert J. Hayes, a Freshman in Farley hall, last year, was killed in an automobile accident on Labor Day; Phil Twigg, Junior in Engineering, died in late June in Indianapolis of a heart ailment. At Notre Dame; Sister Alfraeda, CSC, the jovial and saintly nun who labored for over fifty years in the laundry, and Reverend George Marr, CSC, former rector of Walsh hall, and professor of Ethics. Father Andrew Schreyer, CSC, died suddenly in New Orleans. Among the families of Alumni: father of Raymond Buxton; mother of William G. Klee, '51; father-in-law of Marc Verbiest of Detroit; Lt. George DeSmet, '53; Dick Ware, '40; mother of Prof. Norbert Engels of the English Department; mother of Rev. John Marek, CSC; brother of Rev. Joseph Hart, CSC; brother-in-law of Rev. Michael Mathis, CSC; grandmother of Rev. John VanWolvleare, CSC; brother of Rev. William Cunningham, CSC; Clarence Finloyson, '43; J. W. Hannon; Arch Ward, '21, sports editor of the Chicago Tribune; father of Rev. Richard Patrick, CSC; mother of Bill Healy, '44; aunt of Norm McNeil, '55.

Ill: Dick Creevy, '43 (polio); mother of Rev. Richard Kennedy, CSC; Vaughn Cronin, graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and son of Bill Cronin, '29; Al Parillo of Alumni hall; 2 children of John Netherton, '51 (polio); John Gallagher and Tom Ryan, students, on returning to school (auto accident).

Holy and Happy Deaths

Little stories trickle back to the campus now and then -- stories that concern the last hours of Notre Dame men on earth; stories that are a source of comfort to the parents, and of edification to the campus. Father Cogwin, Dave Kennedy's pastor, saw him at the rail every day of his two-week leave in May; and his Air Force chaplain spotted him at Communion just before the fatal mission. And Chet Wynne wired ahead that he was fasting that morning; and that his parents were to pick up the girl-friend and meet him at the airport -- so that they could go to Mass and Communion as was their custom each week when he was home. We don't worry too much about the sudden deaths of men like these, because, "As a man lives, so shall he die." Pray that your own going into Eternity may find you prepared. And one of the best prayers for this particular grace would be to start the Nine First Fridays in reparation to the Sacred Heart, for the graces of a Happy Death. It's one of the soundest investments you'll make in all your life. Start with October. Who knows, your own exit may be sooner than you think! Start this coming Friday.

Tonight at 6:45 in Sacred Heart Church -- Continuation of Sophomore Mission.

Wednesday evening at 6:45 in Sacred Heart Church -- Junior Mission begins.