

Religious Bulletin  
January 5, 1928

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Requiescat in Pace!

Your wholehearted sympathy and your prayers, Masses and Holy Communion were pledged to the parents of Eugene Kelly as soon as word was received of his untimely death on the day after Christmas. No plea for the fulfillment of this pledge could be more effective than one from his mother, so we are taking the liberty of transcribing the words that have come to us out of her grief-stricken heart:

"Denver, January 1, 1928.

"Rev. Dear Father: Although Mr. Kelly and I are crushed with grief on account of the death of our beloved son, Eugene, and the only remaining child we had (a younger brother and sister having gone to Heaven in their childhood, some years ago) I feel that I must attempt to write you, to acknowledge your kind telegram -- prized beyond words -- informing me of the pledge of prayers, Masses and Communion of the Faculty and students of Notre Dame, for our dear boy, whose sudden and unexpected death has left us, his sorrowing parents, numbed with deepest grief.

"Our only consolation is our Religion, in which my dear husband, although not of the Catholic Faith, is trying to find solace, also. We have attended daily Mass since the sad funeral day, which was last Thursday, December 29th. We have had long, consoling visits from Priests, members of many different Orders of the Catholic Sisterhoods in Denver, and many, many, true sympathizing friends, but not withstanding all this human kindness our grief is not much lessened. We realize that time alone can soften to some extent our grief and the utter loneliness of our sorrowing hearts.

"How strange to realize that the members of the Notre Dame Glee Club should be in Denver, to pay a last honor at the funeral of our dear Eugene! They formed a Guard of Honor in the Denver Cathedral at the funeral services. This will be one of our most cherished memories in the years to come, and also the fact that several of the pall-bearers were Notre Dame students.

"Eugene, I am happy to say, had all the Last Sacraments of the Church, and was conscious almost to the last moment of his life, although the very sudden heart attack was almost enough to make us despair of reaching either doctor or priest. Mr. Kelly and I were with Eugene to the very last, and he (Eugene) made the supreme effort of raising his right hand to bless himself, and although he was not able to speak, his lips moved in prayer, answering the prayers of the priest.

"Eugene arrived home on Saturday afternoon, December 17th, very ill, and with a temperature of 104, resulting from a cold which he contracted at Notre Dame two days before he started home for the Christmas holidays. The doctor, whom we summoned immediately, pronounced the illness influenza of the most dangerous type.

"Please convey the news to all the priests we have met, and please, please pray for our dear Eugene. I cannot write more.

"Elizabeth M. Kelly."

It cannot be that a Notre Dame man would resist such a plea from such a mother. The pledge made in your name will be fulfilled. Tomorrow's Bulletin will carry a spiritual bouquet form to be checked with your offerings.

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PRAYERS are also requested for Fr. Devers, who was very ill following an operation during the holidays, and for Robert Huetz and Frank Noll, who are now in the same condition. Ed. Meredith, who was injured in football three years ago and has been an invalid ever since, is about to undergo a fourth operation. A student who does not want his name known will undergo an operation for appendicitis tomorrow.