

Friday is First Fri.
All day Adoration.
Jrs. and Srs., make

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
March 3, 1943

your $\frac{1}{2}$ Hr. Adoration
in morning before Ball
activities start.

A Mother And A Son With The Heart Of A Notre Dame Man.

"Rev. John F. O'Hara. Dear and Reverend Father:

"I found your name in the 1937 and 1938 BULLETIN and I know you must be a very busy man. Perhaps this is an unusual favor to ask of you, but I will try. My son William Ward Harris had always dreamed and talked of going to Notre Dame from the time he was in the 4th grade at Holy Redeemer School at Madison, Wisconsin. After graduating from high school, he started out, going to California, working at Yosemite Lodge during the vacationing season. The following winter he went to the Everglades Club at Palm Beach, Florida and from there to the Glenwood Hotel, Delaware Gap, Pa., saving his money all this time to realize his dream.

"On his way home from Pa., in Sept. '41 he stopped in South Bend to register at Notre Dame only to find you were filled to capacity. So disillusioned, he came home and I handed him his card to call at his local draft board. After his physical examination he enlisted in the R.C.A.F., for his brother had been there several months and thought they could be together.

"So now, Father, I am coming to the end of my story and asking you, if it is possible for one of the priests there to offer up a Mass for him at the Chapel, for I received word from the Canadian Government that William was killed the 16th of December.

"We are just a poor family and William tried so hard to make a good man of himself. He had received his wings as an observer and was commissioned a Pilot Officer. And may I add that I received a letter from the Padre saying William was a very good and devout Catholic. So if you could grant me this favor I would be very happy, for my son could at least claim a small portion from Notre Dame but a great deal for his soul."

Sincerely, Mrs. O. W. Harris

This good mother sent her letter to Notre Dame thinking that the Father O'Hara she addressed was still on the campus. The letter was forwarded to Bishop O'Hara who sent the following letter to Mrs. Harris.

"Dear Mrs. Harris: Your son was one of the group we like to think of as the best Notre Dame men -- the men who have loved the school from afar, and have tried to model their lives on the highest teachings and ideals of Notre Dame. Although he did not realize his ambition here on earth, I am sure that he is a good Notre Dame man in heaven, since a good Notre Dame man is one of Our Lady's boys, whether or not he ever studied at Notre Dame.

"Although I was called away from the University three years ago to work for the men of the armed forces, my heart is still there. I am saying Mass for your son here in New York, and I am asking one of the priests at Notre Dame to say Mass there on the campus. At the same time I am praying that God will give you the consolation that every mother should have who has given a boy to the service of the country."

PRAYERS: (deceased) Sister M. Canisius, C.S.J.; Mrs. Suzana Troost; friend of Jim Sheridan (Cav); mother of Midshipman John A. Maloney (N.D.V-7); Bill Harris; uncle of Jerry Marbach (Cav). (Ill) Friend of Bill Olivier (BP); grandmother of Ed Sweeney (Cav); wife of Tim Galvin, '16; cousin of Chase Black (D11).
6 Special Intentions.