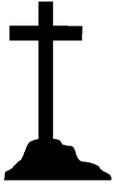

◆ THE CALVARY CHRONICLE ◆

Volume 13, Issue 1

NEWSLETTER FOR CALVARY CEMETERY

Spring 2011



MEMORIAL DAY MASS

Memorial Mass will be held Sunday, May 29th at 11:30 a.m. Father Gerald Chinchar from the University of Dayton will preside. Services will be held in a tent outside the Memorial Chapel. Please join us.

All gave some—some gave all. We honor all the soldiers who give us our freedom.



CORPORAL EUGENE E. MIDDLETON KILLED IN ACTION WORLD WAR II

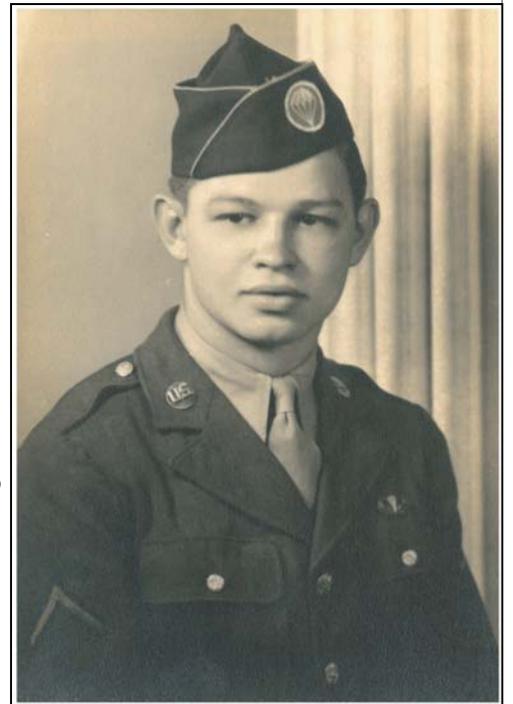
Corporal Eugene Edward Middleton was killed on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Middleton was born May 19, 1924 in Dayton, Ohio. The Middletons were a typical family from Dayton, Ohio. Eugene's father, George, was a welder at Dayton Power and Light and later worked at McCalls. His mother, Helen, was a factory worker at Delco Moraine making airplane parts. Eugene and his younger brother, Dale, attended Roosevelt High School. Eugene was a short man and had the nickname "Buster." Buster wanted to play football in high school. Helen objected thinking it was too dangerous for Buster.

After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941 many young men wanted to enlist. Eugene Middleton was no exception. According to Middleton's military records, the day after Pearl Harbor he enlisted into the National Guard. By the time he was eighteen years old and a senior at Roosevelt High School, Middleton was inducted into the Army on July 27, 1942 in Ft. Thomas, Kentucky and went to boot camp at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.

Cpl. Middleton was part of the 101st Airborne Division, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, the same as the book and movie "Band of Brothers." However, Middleton was part of C Company. The 101st known as the "Screaming Eagles", trained in Camp Toccoa, Georgia. Their commander trained them by running the troops up a hill called Currahee. The word Currahee means stand alone and it is emblazoned on the 506th crest.

Middleton loved being a paratrooper and wrote letters to his family describing his jumps and once said he narrowly missed landing on a barbed wire fence.

Dwight D. Eisenhower and Winston Churchill planned a massive invasion of Europe on the Normandy beaches of France. These plans included the 101st Airborne. In New York on September of 1943, Eugene boarded an old India passenger ship named S. S. Samaria. On board were 5,000 men of the 506 PIR, many of whom lined the ships rails to catch a glimpse of the Statue of Liberty. On September 15th, the Samaria docked at Liverpool and for the next eight months Eugene trained for the invasion of France. In late May of 1944, Eugene's training ended and he and the rest of Charlie Company reported to Upottery Airfield. Easy Company's "Band of Brothers" were also assigned to this airfield.



Corporal Eugene Middleton

Continued on page 2

Corporal Eugene Middleton—con't.

On June 5th, the moment had arrived and the men of Charlie company made their final preparations for the coming battle. Eugene cleaned his weapon and checked his parachute. Around 9:00 p.m. Middleton threw his equipment onto a truck that whisked him to the C-47 that waited to carry them to the drop zone in France. Standing on the tarmac next to the plane, it was now time for Eugene and the fifteen other paratroopers in his stick to put on their equipment, firearms and parachutes that together weighed about 100 pounds per man. With this laborious task finished, they boarded the plane.

The plane was piloted by 2nd Lt Marston Sargent of the 439th Troop Carrier Group. He and his three member crew manned one of 443 planes that carried the paratroopers into battle on D-Day. Sometime before midnight, the plane lifted off the runway and carried Eugene Middleton and the fifteen other paratroopers to their meeting with fate. Crossing the channel, they flew over the enormous invasion fleet. About 1:00 a.m. they crossed over the French border at an altitude of about 1,000 feet. A few minutes later anti-aircraft fire lit up the night sky with explosions of hot metal that damaged many of the planes. Eugene's plane was hit hard and the pilot, Marston Sargent, did his best to keep the plane in the air but the damage was too severe. Eugene Middleton and all aboard perished in the crash north east of Picauville, France. The Allied deaths that 1st day of battle are estimated to be about twenty-five hundred – including Eugene Middleton.

Middleton was survived by his parents, a brother, Dale, two sisters, Paricia (Mercer) and Beverly (Noble). He was first buried in France. Middleton's body was returned and services were held at Emmanuel Church on July 19, 1948. After Eugene's death, his mother, Helen, quit Delco Moraine. She cared for babies in her home and over time cared for over thirty babies. One of these babies, Jerry, was adopted by the Middleton family and soon became brother to the rest of the children. Middleton is buried alongside his parents in Calvary Cemetery in Section 5, Lot 285.



Crest of the 506th PIR



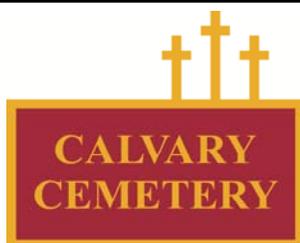
CALVARY SPONSORS SCHOLARSHIP AT UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

To honor America's veterans the Board of Trustees of Calvary Cemetery granted a scholarship for a University of Dayton student. The scholarship provides help for a student that is a military veteran or child of a military veteran. The recipient of this year's scholarship was Tyler Edwards, grandson of two Korean War veterans. Tyler's maternal grandfather, Richard Tapia, served as a bomber pilot in the Air Force. His paternal grandfather, Robert Edwards, was a U.S. Army medic during the war. The scholarship was presented at a U.D. basketball game on Feb. 19, 2011. Tyler is a freshman at the University, studying mechanical engineering. Edwards is a graduate of Centerville High School and currently lives on campus. Tyler's dream is to work at Wright Patterson Air Force Base on top secret projects. Presenting the scholarship is Harry Finke, and Bill Frapwell, President and Vice-President of the Board of Trustees at Calvary Cemetery, Tyler Edwards and Robert Poteat, Director of Corp. Development for University of Dayton Athletics Department.

This past basketball season, Calvary Cemetery also honored veterans by sponsoring the University of Dayton ROTC Honor Guard during the men's basketball games.



Harry Finke, Bill Frapwel, Tyler Edwards and Robert Poteat



For more information contact:

Calvary Cemetery
Calvary & S. Dixie Aves.
Dayton, OH 45409
Phone: 937-293-1221
Fax: 937-293-7316

Visit our website at:
www.calvarycemeterydayton.org

*Creating Community
Celebrating Lifetimes.*