



Bringing up Elwood

Sister Lucia Treanor, FSE
Serra Club of Arlington
November 1, 2022

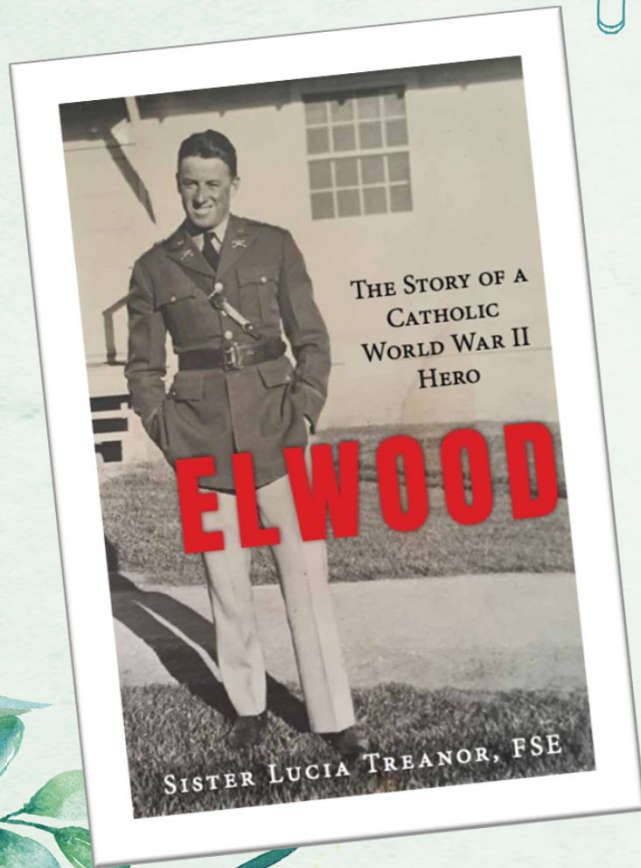
Our Lady of the
Immaculate
Conception,
pray for us.



A Soldier's Prayer

O God of Love, make me a soldier worthy of the Great Cause for which we fight! Give me strength when the going is hard! Give me courage when danger is near. In Thee I place my trust.

Lead me through the perils of this war to the Better World to which I have dedicated my life! But if the service of Thee and my Country calls for the sacrifice of my life, I only ask, Dear God, that Thou be with me at that moment, confident that thy Peace awaits me in eternity!



Captain Elwood J. Ewart, US Army



Plan of the Presentation

①

Introduction

The *Coolidge* and bringing up Elwood's body from the deep

②

Family Life

Bringing up Elwood to be a good young man

③

A Habit of Being

Bringing up Elwood's struggles

④

Bringing up Elwood

Bringing up the subject of conscience formation

The luxury liner *S. S. President Coolidge* was built by the Dollar Steamship Company in 1931. She was launched, christened by the late President Coolidge's wife, Mrs. Grace Coolidge. She was the largest passenger ship constructed in America.



Built by Newport News Shipbuilding Drydock Company in Newport News, Virginia, the *Coolidge* was 654 feet 3 inches long (a waterline of 615 feet) and had a gross (displacement) of 21,936 tons.



maiden voyage to
CALIFORNIA
 HAWAII AND THE ORIENT



S.S. "PRESIDENT
COOLIDGE"
 from New York - October 15th

Plan now to sail on this Maiden Voyage of the twin flagship of the great Dollar Line fleet... the famous President Liners that sail through the Panama Canal to California, the Orient and Round the World.

Only her sister ship, the new S. S. President Hoover, is so fast. From the extra large Top Deck and the commodious Public Rooms to your own living quarters (every one an outside stateroom) you'll find new luxury and spaciousness. In Passock Alley, with its shops, in the Stock Exchange, in the sand-shored swimming pool, in the 206-car garage—everywhere—you'll find surprising innovations... And you'll find an amazing new accommodation, for the S. S. President Coolidge and S. S. President Hoover are the world's largest all-electric passenger liners.

Sail October 15... stop at Havana and the Panama Canal... then California! And on, if you choose (from Los Angeles Nov. 1 from San Francisco Nov. 6) via Hawaii, to Japan, China and the Philippines. Returns from any ports by the same route. Or continue on another President Liner Round the World.

President Liners sail every Thursday from New York, via California, the Orient and Round the World; every other week from the Orient and California to New York.

Fares, New York to California; S. S. President Coolidge—First Class \$275; Special Class \$150. Other sailings: First Class begins at \$100 and \$225.

Round the World: First Class as low as \$1116 and \$1250... with private bath \$1347. Ticket good for two full years; stopover in any or all of 22 ports in 14 foreign countries, as you like.

For full information see local agent, or see us write:

DOLLAR STEAMSHIP LINES

604 Fifth Avenue, New York • • • DE 5-3000
 20 Broadway, New York • • • DE 6-2200

Philadelphia • Boston • Washington, D.C. • Cleveland • Chicago • Los Angeles • San Francisco • San Diego

This is a *Time* magazine ad from August 13, 1931 advertising the maiden voyage of the *S. S. President Coolidge*, the world's largest all-electricity liner.



S. S. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE

Dinner

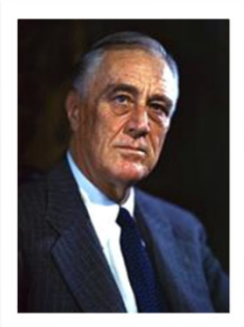
<i>Appetizers</i>	Table Celery en Branche Stuffed Eggs, Isabella Tartines of Bloater Paste	Green Stuffed Olives Fish Salad, Indienne Royal Varel Sardines Baby Artichokes in Oil	Garden Radishes Windsor Salad		
<i>Soup</i>	Cream of Rice, Carmen	Consomme, Printanier Royal			
<i>Fish</i>	Alaska King Salmon Steak Saute au Beurre Noire, Parsley Potatoes				
<i>Entrees</i>	Jugged Belgian Hare with Red Wine Sauce and Wild Rice Boneless Shoulder of Pork with Apple Compote, Cider Sauce Preserved Cling Peaches on Sweet Rice a la Conde				
<i>Roasts</i>	Roast Vermont Tom Turkey with American Dressing, Cranberry Jelly Roast Leg of Eastern Lamb with Fresh Mint Sauce				
<i>Grill</i>	<i>To Order From Our Charcoal Broiler - - Allow 10 Minutes</i> Broiled Sirloin Steak with Frozen Bearnaise, Artesienne				
<i>Vegetables</i>	Fresh String Beans	Fried Eggplant Carrots and Peas	Boiled Carolina Rice		
<i>Potatoes</i>	Snowflake	Au Gratin	Baked in Jacket		
<i>Cold Buffet</i>	Choice of Assorted Cold Cuts and Sausages Served with Potato Salad				
<i>Salads</i>	Four Seasons	Heart of Lettuce			
<i>Dressings</i>	French	Thousand Island	Mayonnaise	Caruso	Roquefort
<i>Desserts</i>	Ice Cream	Jell-O	Walnut Layer Cake	Coconut Macaroons	
<i>Cheese</i>	Monterey Jack	Roquefort	Gorgonzola	Saltina Soda and Toasted Bents Wafer Crackers	

Fresh Fruit in Season
Demi Tasse

After Dinner Coffee Served in Smoking Room or Marine Tea Garden

World War II

January 14, 1941



F'doolqj #k h#Q dwlrg d#
J x dug #qwr #Hghud#
Vhuylfh



The *S. S. President Coolidge* was pressed into service, relieved of her luxuries, and painted gray.



43rd Infantry Division



103rd Field Artillery Regiment





Vanuatu is an archipelago of 82 islands (65 inhabited) situated southeast of the Solomon Islands, west of Fiji, and northeast of New Caledonia.

The islands cover 810 miles from north to south and are volcanic in origin with active volcanoes on land and undersea in the vicinity. Mount Tabwemasana on the island of Espiritu Santo is the highest point in Vanuatu at 6,165 feet. Tropical forest covers most of the islands though there is a relatively small number of flora and fauna species.

November, 1942

Marines rest in a field on Guadalcanal.

The *Coolidge* was transporting soldiers to relieve these men.



October 26, 1942





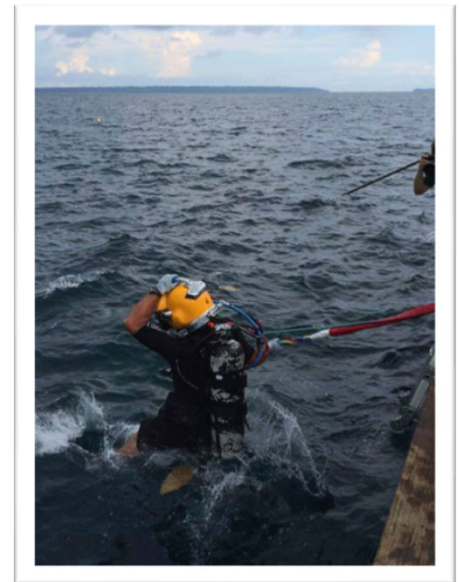








1. Bringing up Elwood: 2012-2016



Bringing Elwood Home

FEATURE ARTICLE



A HERO'S RETURN HOME

Captain Elwood J. Euart 1914 - 1942

By 1st Lt. Mark Incze, Commander, 110th Public Affairs Detachment

More than 70 years after his heroic death, Captain Elwood J. Euart, a Pawtucket R.I. native and member of the 103d Field Artillery Battalion, was received by the Rhode Island National Guard Funeral Honors team at T.F. Green Airport, in Warwick, R.I. for a dignified transfer of his remains from the Department of Defense into his family's care on Saturday, Aug. 27, 2016.

A memorial ceremony honoring the life and sacrifice of Euart

was held on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2016, at the Keefe Funeral Home in Lincoln, R.I. During the ceremony, Brigadier General Christopher Callahan, the Adjutant General, posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart Medals to the Euart family. Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo also presented the Rhode Island Cross to the family, the highest ranking Rhode Island medal, for his heroic

actions in the South Pacific.

Members of the 103d Field Artillery Battalion served as an Honor Guard throughout the ceremony maintaining a constant vigil until Capt. Euart's remains could be laid to rest for the final time. Members of the artillery battalion also served as pallbearers for the movement of their World War II brethren. Capt. Euart was laid to rest beside his parents, Winifred Casey Euart and Elwood

Francis Euart at the St. Francis Cemetery, in Smithfield, R.I. on Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016, with full military honors. According to one of Capt. Euart's nephews, Paul Vallee, of Bethel, Vermont, Winifred Euart kept a photo of Capt. Euart on her bedside table her entire life and it was a family decision to bury him with his parents.

On Oct. 26, 1942, in the South Pacific, when the USS President Coolidge, carrying 5,440 men bound for the island of Espiritu Santo struck two friendly mines in the mouth of the channel, Captain Henry Nelson, the ship's commander, ordered the ship beached in order to safely evacuate the men. Nearly all the ship's compliment, including Capt. Euart, made it safely ashore. But when

Euart heard there were men still trapped below, he headed back aboard to render assistance.

Euart remained aboard the badly listing ship, rescuing trapped service members below decks. Euart was credited for saving several service members that day. As the time passed, the ship slipped off the coral reef and settled in deeper water and eventually sank, trapping Capt. Euart, where he remained for more than 70 years undisturbed in Espiritu Santo's harbor until 2013. In that year, a team of civilian recreational divers happened upon his remains.

After positively identifying the remains with DNA testing, the United States Army deployed a dive team from Hawaii to recover him in 2015, where he remained until funeral arrange-

ments were finalized.

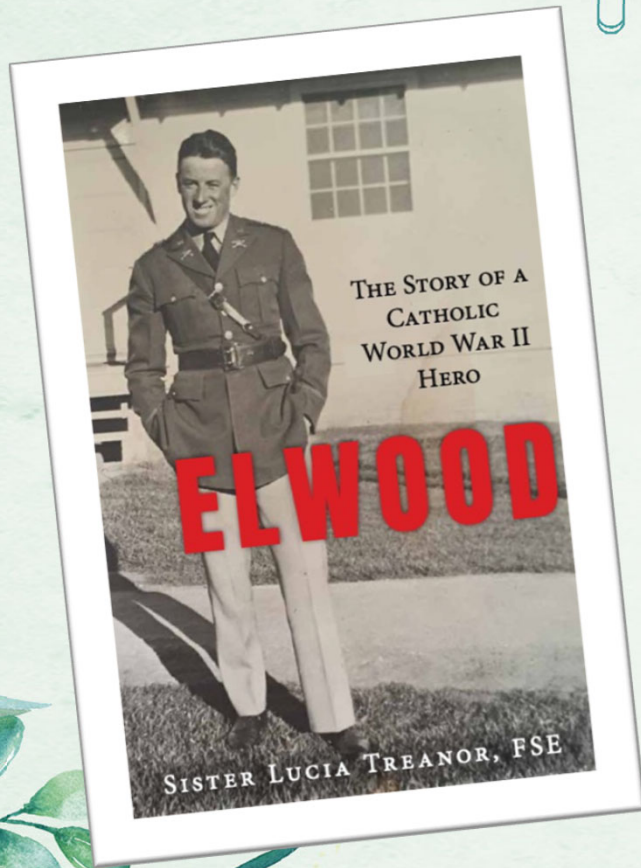
"They say no one gets left behind, and the Army has done that. He's coming back to where he should be," said Vallee.

Captain Elwood J. Euart was a true son of Rhode Island. Born and raised in Pawtucket, R.I., he spent his youth in the Boy Scouts of America, earning the rank of Eagle Scout. He graduated from the Rhode Island State College, now known as the University of Rhode Island, in the class of 1939.

Rhode Island National Guard leadership render a hand salute as the remains of Army Captain Elwood James Euart are transferred from an aircraft at T.F. Green Airport in Warwick, RI to a hearse that will bring them to his final resting place. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Michael A. Simmons)



Ocean State Guardian | 21



2. Family Life

“The future of humanity passes by way of the family.”

Pope St. John Paul II (*Familiaris Consortio*, 75)

02 Family Life

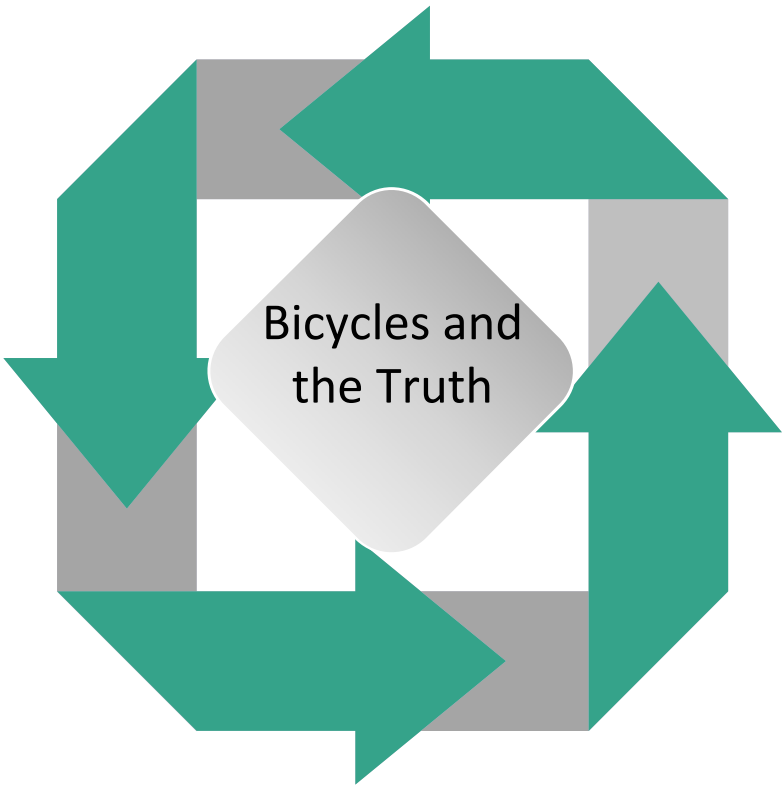
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**Mom and Dad,
Elwood, and
6 brothers and
sisters**

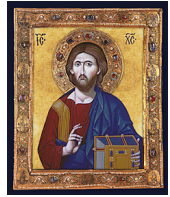


Middle Class

Later Elwood had to help support the family.



**Devout Catholic
Family**



Special Needs

Ruth Euart



The Providence Cycledrome



Motor Paced Cycling



A Description of the Slip-screen Created in Motor Paced Cycling

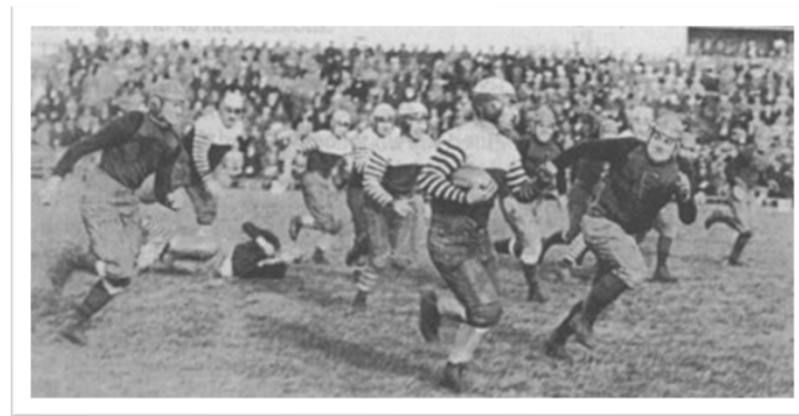
“I was quite unable to measure the space we covered, or the time. I only knew we were travelling quickly, very quickly, quicker and quicker. The wind we created was not, as at first, an obstacle against which I leaned with all my weight; it had become a whirling passage, a void between two rushing sections of air. I felt them flowing at my right, at my left, like two liquid walls, and when I tried to reach out an arm it was pressed to my side by some irresistible force.”

--from *The Diary of a Country Priest* by Georges Bernanos,
Trans. Pamela Morris, NY: Carroll & Graf Publishers, Inc.
1937, reprint 1965: p. 237.

The Providence Cycledrome



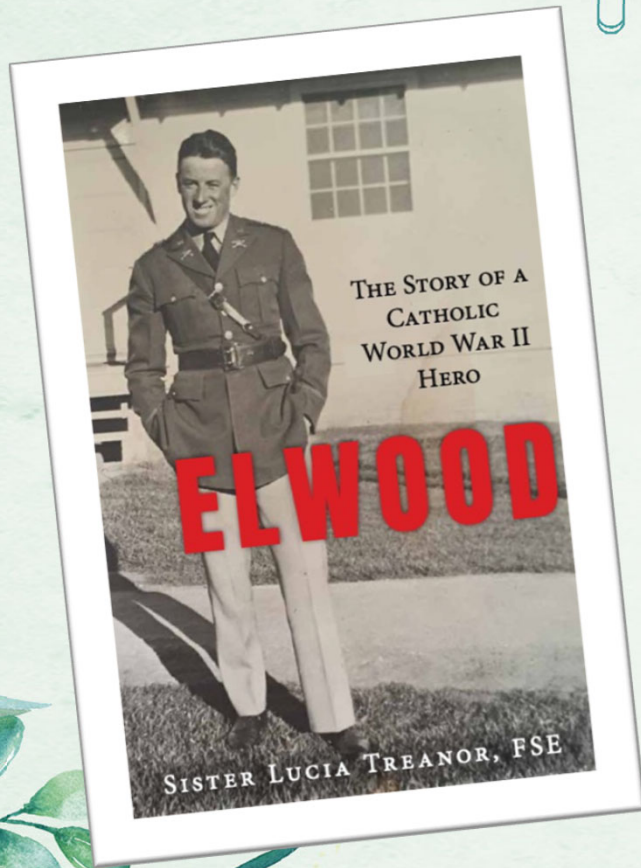
The Providence Cycledrome



Dayton
Yellowjackets
vs Providence
Steam Roller
1926

Elwood, Big G and the Cycledrome (pages 33-36)





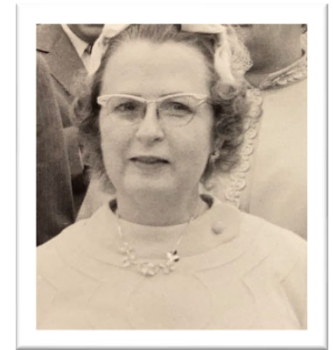
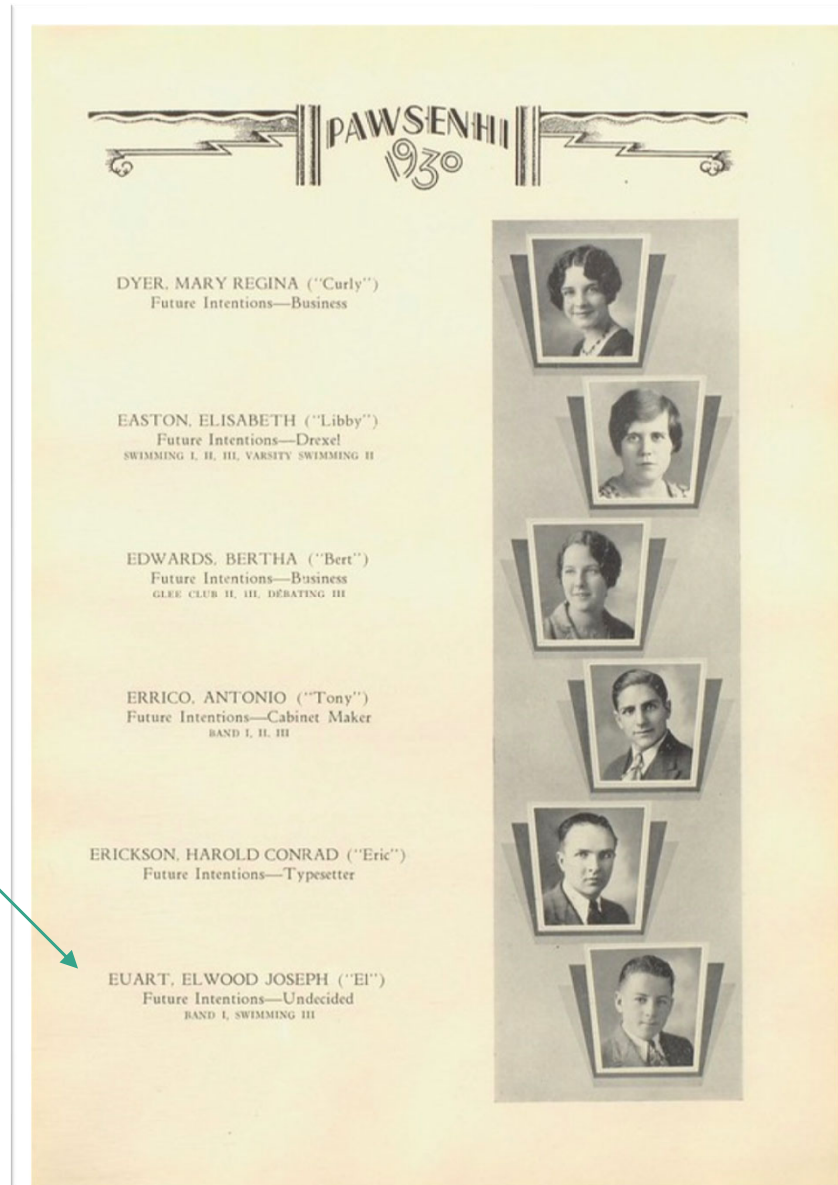
3. A Habit of Being

“The dignity and responsibility of the Christian family as the domestic church, can be achieved only with God’s unceasing aid, which will surely be granted if it is humbly and trustingly petitioned in prayer” (59).

Elwood was responsible for chores at home, including the care of his special needs sister, Ruth.

He went to camp at Yawgoog and was an Eagle Scout.

He learned to swim at Slacks Pond.
(pages 23-25)



Ruth Euart in the 1960s



Paul Choquette at Yawgoog

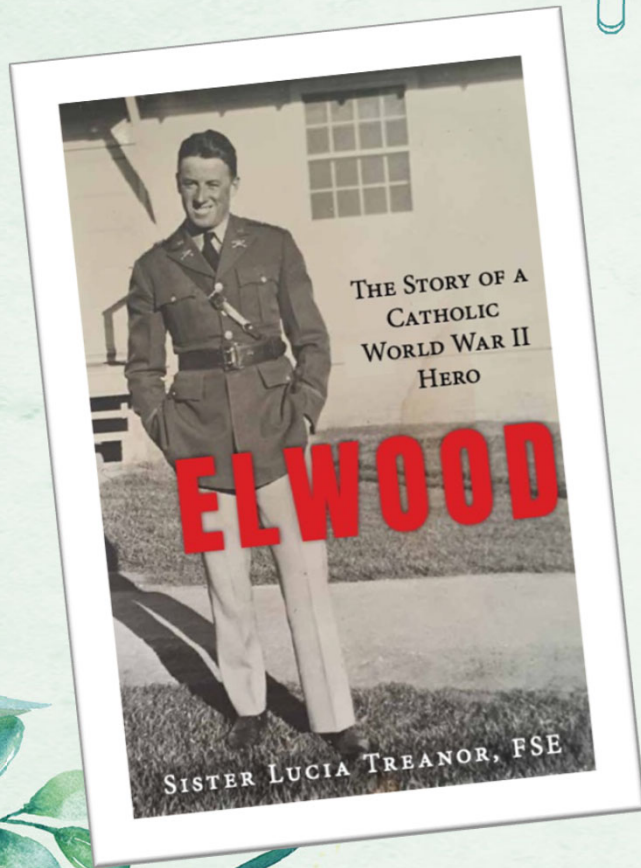
Rhode Island State College

Elwood endured remaining at home to help support his family, a tragic love, and the devastation of the 1938 hurricane that killed the family members of his friend.

A member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), he joined the R. I. National Guard after college.



Captain Elwood Joseph Euart '39



4. Bringing up Elwood

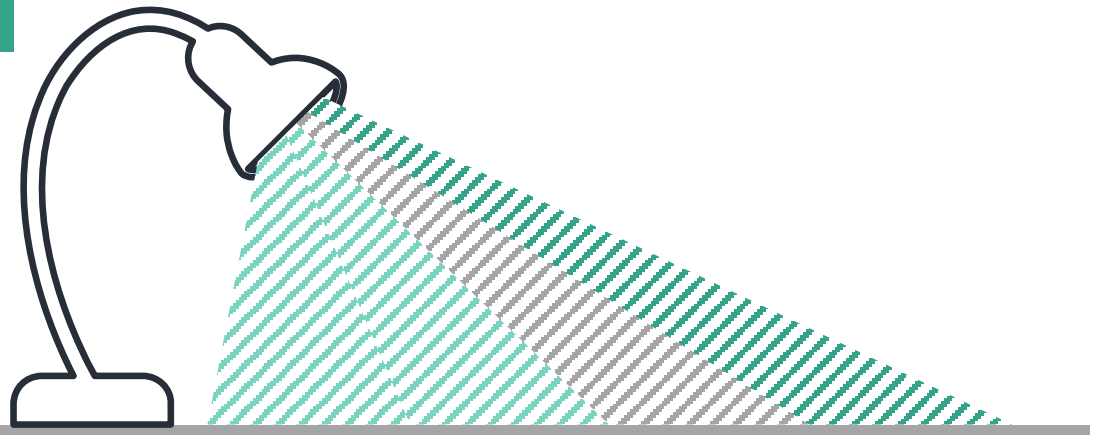
“The Christian family loudly proclaims both the present virtues of the Kingdom of God and the hope of a blessed life to come”(52).



Bringing up the Subject of Elwood

In the days after

- N o t i f i c a t i o n s
- R e x M o l i b r i n g s u p E l w o o d



01

Col. James Lewis
letter to the
men

02

The telegram to
the parents

03

The letter of Fr.
Mahoney

04

Rex Moli

HO. 172a H. & C. 172
APO #708, C/O Postmaster
San Francisco, California

22 December, 1942

GENERAL ORDERS
NO.....1
(New series due to loss of records.)

1. Members of Combat Team 172 are commended for the manner in which they met the first serious test of their discipline and training at the time of the sinking of the USAT PRESIDENT COOLIDGE, October 26, 1942. Without discipline of a superior kind the feat of abandoning ship by some 4,000 men in less than one hour could never have been accomplished. Coolness which forestalled panic, trust in your leaders, consideration for the safety of others, agility in scrambling down nets and ropes, all combined to prevent a terrible disaster and weld together a Combat Team with mutual confidence between officers and men.

2. To wait quietly in a dark and crowded cabin, breathing pungent fumes while the oily water rose from shoetops to knee, to hip; to count the minutes and feel the ever increasing list of the cabin until it grew so steep you piled mattresses on the floor to keep your footing; to move out without stampeding when the order finally came to go; to drop from the dangling net into the green water although you may never have been out over your knees before; to wait for the soldier near you who could not swim although you knew you both might be engulfed at anytime by whirlpools when the ship rolled over; to lose no time ashore in building with makeshift tools so you might be dependent on nobody - all revealed something soldiers call "what it takes". Thus, proud of our first test, every man can look forward with confidence to the future, whatever it may bring, and ask only that the Providence which has once tried our mettle keep us steadfast when our next turn comes.

3. It is directed that this order be read at the first Retreat formation following its receipt, and that a copy certified as to name, rank and serial number in each instance be filed in the Service Record of every enlisted member of Combat Team 172 who was aboard the USAT PRESIDENT COOLIDGE at 0930, October 26, 1942, until such time as the situation permits it to be turned over to him as a memento of this day.

A certified True Copy:
Melvin K. Hass
MELVIN K. HASS
1st Lt., Inf.
Personnel Adjutant

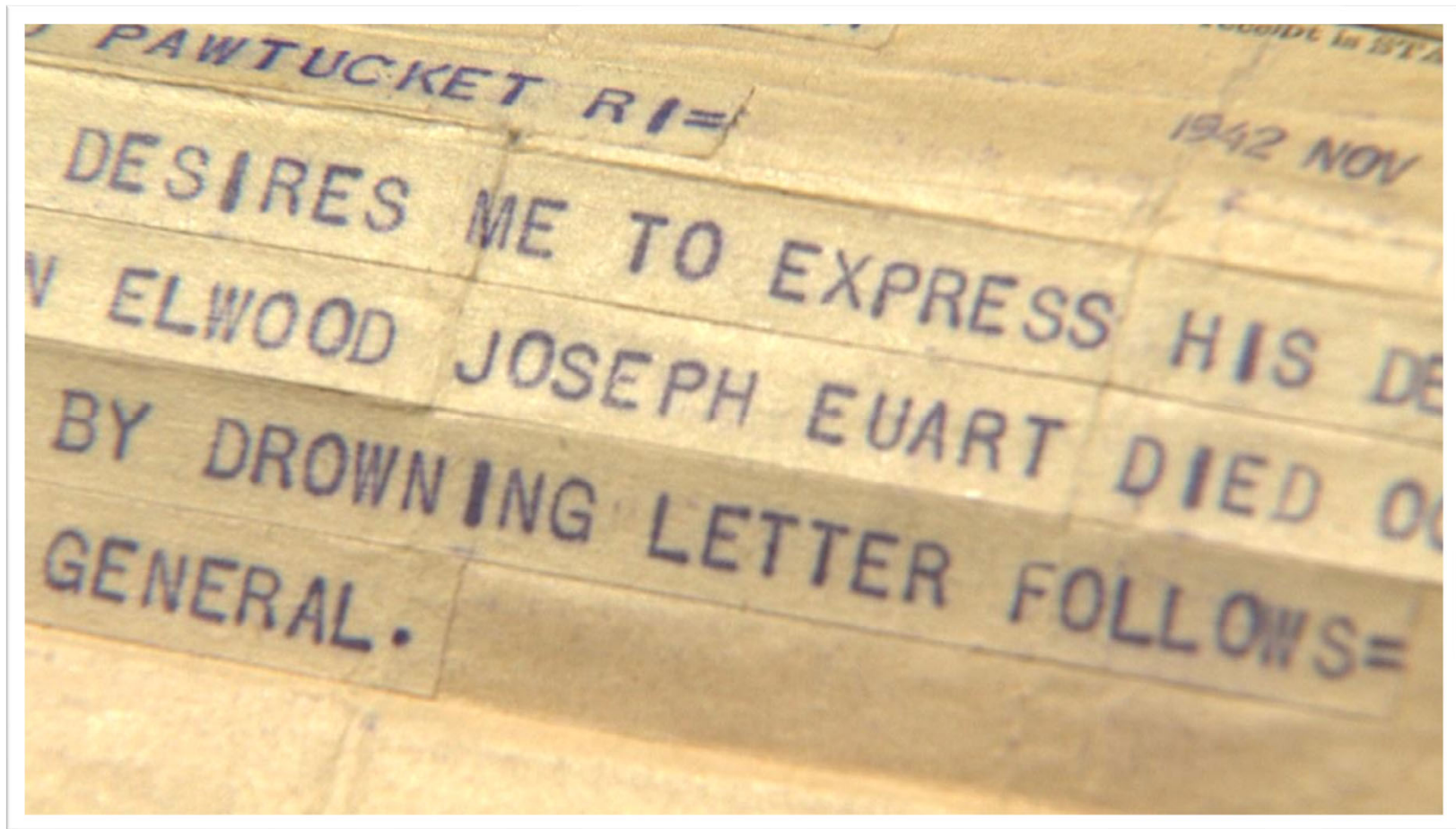
/s/ JAMES A. LEWIS
JAMES A. LEWIS
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that Private First Class Henry E. Morrison 2015329
(Name)
(Grade or rank) was a member of Combat Team 172 on October 26, 1942.

Melvin K. Hass
MELVIN K. HASS
1st Lt. Inf.
Personnel Adjutant

Telegram to Mr. and Mrs. Euart



172d Inf. A.P.O. 708 C/O Postmaster, San Francisco
February 14, 1943

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Buart:

This is a letter which I have wanted to write to you for some time, but censorship would not permit. However, I finally obtained permission to carry out my wish.

As Chaplain of the 172d Inf. I was on the ship with your son when he gave his all that others might live. "Greater love than this hath no man - that he lay down his life for his friends!" This war has produced and will produce many men of heroic courage; but it is my opinion and, I am sure, that of every man on that ship, there will be no greater hero than Captain Buart.

When we were ordered to abandon the ship, your son was on deck and could have easily, and with honor, slid down the ropes to safety. But with that Courage and Love which is more than human, he went below to make certain that his boys were safely getting off the ship. I saw him there myself as I went down to the brig, to make sure that the boys there had been freed, and especially to check on a mental patient whom I had visited a half-hour before

The ship had listed to one side, and Capt. Buart had tied a rope about himself and fastened it to a railing so that he could rescue many boys who were unable to climb up the slippery, water-filled ship. And he did rescue them - all! Then just as he had expended nearly all of his strength in saving others and two of his fellow-officers were about to pull him to safety, the ship went down with all three. Somehow the others were shot up to the surface, but Capt. Buart's body is still tied to his post.

He died doing more than his duty. And his heroic sacrifice has instilled in us all a spirit which will help every man in our combat team to carry on for Captain Buart, and for our beloved Country!

His body is still with the ship, but his immortal soul is with God. I am sure that you need not worry about his spiritual safety.

It seems to me that Capt. Buart had a premonition that he was soon going to Heaven. Although I had met him through Father Cullion back in camp, I came to know him very well on the ship. He had charge of the enlisted men's dining-hall, and although it was being used from early morning until night, he managed to have it cleared for forty minutes each afternoon so I could offer Mass. He attended Mass and received Holy Communion every day, including the Feast of Christ The King, the day before his death.

Captain Buart completed his service to his Country, and today he is in God's Heavenly Army. And with what rank he must have been welcomed by Him who set us the example in giving His Life that others might live! Captain Buart followed that example even unto death!

Just a few days before his death, Capt. Buart came to my stateroom and asked for something to read. I gave him "The Song of Bernardette". The very morning that our ship went down - just an hour before it struck the mines - he came again as I was hearing confessions, to return the book. He had not quite finished it, and asked to borrow it again after we were ashore. I am sure that St. Bernardette told him the rest of the story that day in heaven!

I remember very vividly how he asked me for a copy of "A Soldier's Prayer", which we say after every Mass. It is a little prayer that I have asked every Catholic boy in our regiment to recite every day. Practically every boy had been "adopted" by some little child belonging to the "Children's Crusade of Prayer"; and in return for the child's daily prayer the soldier was to recite this prayer daily. I had a few blanks on my desk for any other men who might wish to be "adopted" by the little children. (Nearly every Catholic member of the regiment had filled out such blanks.)

From: Timothy Ritchie <timothyjritchie@gmail.com>

Dear Sister,

I have finally caught up with Rex, please find his response below.

Regards, Tim

1. Yes, I am the one who found Elwood's remains.
2. Yes, my friends call me Rex.
3. I am forty three years old.
4. Yes, I've been diving for sixteen years.
5. Yes, I have a wife and children.
6. I've been diving many times before I found Elwood.
7. Number fifteen June 2012. The weather was clear and calm.
8. There's nothing happen.
9. Yes, I'm alone.
10. No.
11. Just one single tank.
12. The water was very quiet and calm and the color was blue.
13. Yes, I saw the ship's prow first. It reminds me of Elwood.
14. I saw cargo hold two.
15. I saw some fish.
16. No, I didn't enter the ship at Ewart's door, I enter cargo hold two.

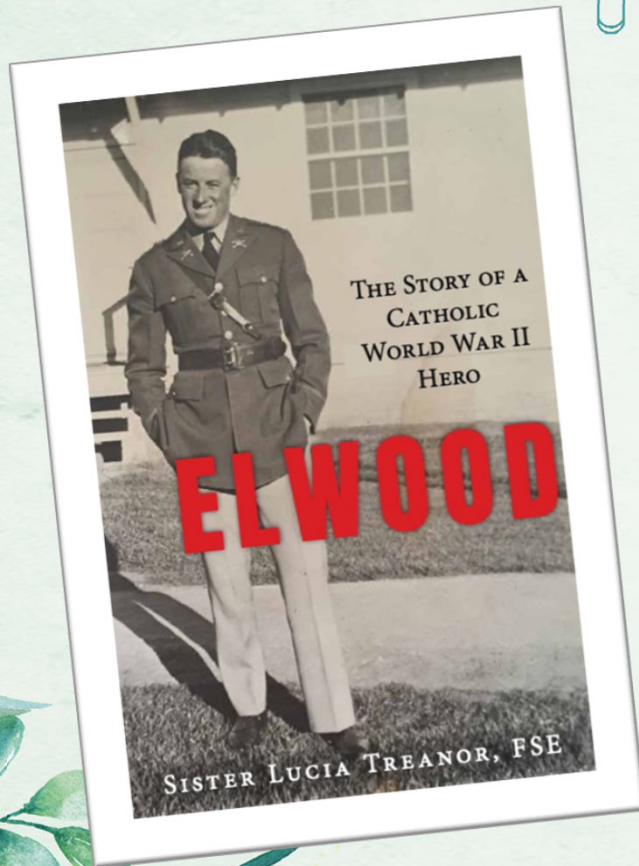
17. I didn't see anything, but I am at "C" deck.
18. I am thinking about the remains in the ship.
19. The remains are in the "C" deck in the bathroom.
20. I was digging then I saw some bones.
21. I think it was a human being bones.
22. Yes, I know that it was Elwood.
23. I put the remains together.
24. I put them in the same place because I know it was not belong to me.
25. No I didn't, I keep on ground through the ship.
26. I went up to the surface.
27. I told my colleague.
28. I told him and we decided to tell Allan Power about what I saw. Just both of us.
29. Then next I told Allan Power everything I saw, then Allan send me to dive and bring one of the bones to him to prove that it was human beings bone or a animals bone.
30. Then next I told Allan Power everything I saw, then Allan send me to dive and bring one of the bones to him to prove that it was human beings bone or a animals bone.

(read Ch 1)

The Second Trip to Recover Elwood



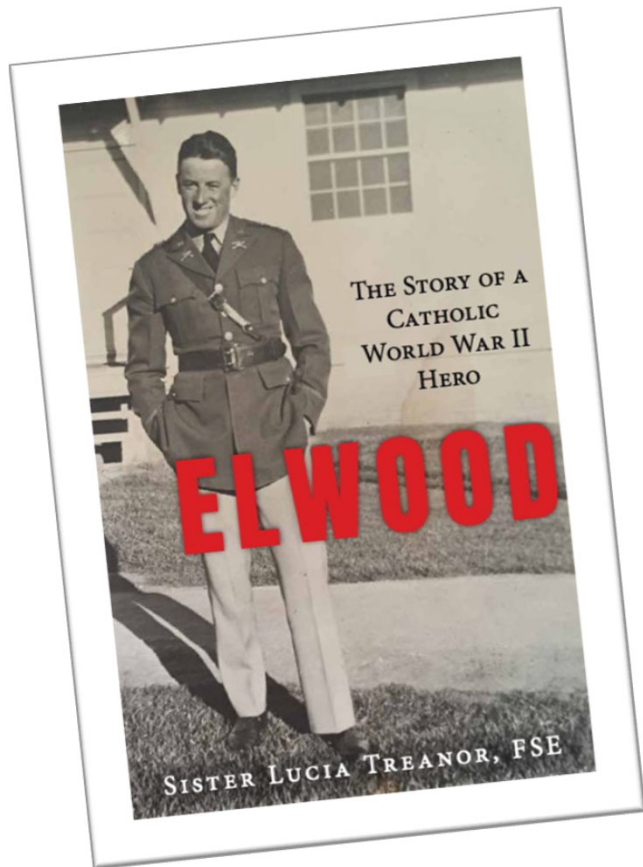
Markers of Conscience Formation



the joy of a loving, faith-filled family
the loyalty of a youthful friend
the consistent moral guidance
the dependence of a special needs sister
the leadership training of the Boy Scouts
the gift of poverty
the dignity of work
the necessity of waiting
the sorrow of a lost love
the mature friendship of fraternity brothers
the horror of a catastrophe
the discipline of the R I National Guard
the bonding of military buddies
the model of a holy priest

Special Thanks to the Diocese of Arlington

- Soren and Ever Johnson for drawing my attention to *Familiaris Consortio*
- Bishop Emeritus Paul S. LoVerde and Karen Luchetti for assistance finding Ken Higginbotham
- Meredith Hinkle for the invitation to speak today
- My Community, the Franciscan Sister of the Eucharist



Captain Elwood J. Euart, US Army

You may purchase books from the table at \$20/each or order from OSV Press or Amazon.