

9-29-2018

2018 Annual Dinner Program

The O'Callahan Society, College of the Holy Cross

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O'CALLAHAN SOCIETY Homecoming Dinner & Events

Alumni, parents and friends are invited to join us during Homecoming Weekend on the Holy Cross campus. Our dinner will recognize and remember the service and sacrifice of Holy Cross Men who participated in the Vietnam War.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018



Chairman's Welcome
BILL MCCARTHY '76



Dear Members, Friends, and Guests,

Welcome to the eighteenth annual O'Callahan Society Dinner! This year we are remembering the men and women who served in Vietnam a half century ago. We are fortunate to have in our midst several distinguished alumni and friends of the College whose service exemplified honor, courage, and commitment.

Over the years, we have been fortunate to have a number of distinguished military and civilian leaders as featured speakers. This evening we depart from our standard format in order to give you the opportunity to hear from not one, but four, individuals whose lives were dramatically impacted by the Vietnam conflict. We are truly honored and deeply grateful that Medal of Honor Recipient Captain Thomas G. Kelley, USN (ret) HC '60; his wife, Commander Joan Kelley, USNR (ret); former POW Commander Timothy B. Sullivan, USN (ret) HC '65, and Marine veteran Harry Kustigian have agreed to share their experiences and insights with us.

It is a pleasure to welcome Rev. William Campbell, S.J., '87 Vice President for Mission who is representing HC President, Rev. Philip L. Boroughs, S.J. this evening.

We are pleased to welcome back the Commanding Officer of the Holy Cross Naval ROTC Unit, Commander Chris Benjamin, U.S. Navy and his staff.

The O'Callahan Society takes special pleasure in welcoming the new class of incoming midshipmen. We congratulate you on the successes that brought you here, and we thank you and your families for your willingness to serve our country.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to all past and present members of the armed forces and their families for the sacrifices they have made. We are honored you are joining us this evening.

An evening such as this requires the work of numerous dedicated individuals. I would like to thank Lester Paquin, our MC this evening and a member of the Society ab initio; Tom Cadigan '02, Associate Director of Alumni Relations, his staff and particularly our liaison, Alex Greeley, Associate Director of Alumni Relations; Tom Parsons and his staff in Graphic Arts; as well as MIDN Cutler and the Midshipmen Battalion Staff for their support. On behalf of the Society's Board, I would like to thank to Jim Delehaunty '67, the Executive Co-chair of the O'Callahan Society. Thanks to Jim's tireless leadership and the support of many of you here this evening, the O'Callahan Society has been able to once again expand its support for the Midshipmen Battalion. To Jim and Kathy Delehaunty, and all of you who have contributed in various ways to the Society's mission, we offer our heartfelt thanks!

Have a wonderful evening!

Cordially,

Bill McCarthy '76, Co-chair

Rear Adm. U.S. Navy (retired)

Today's Events

HOMECOMING AND DINNER PROGRAM

Society Annual Meeting

9:30 a.m. Coffee
10:00 a.m. Meeting
Hogan Campus Center, Room 403

NROTC Battalion Tailgate

11:00 a.m. Tailgate
Stein Quad

Holy Cross v Bucknell

1:05 p.m. Football Game
Fitton Field

Society Annual Dinner

6:00 p.m. Reception
Father Dunn Room
7:00 p.m. Patriotic Opening
Hogan Campus Center, Ballroom
7:15 p.m. Dinner
Hogan Campus Center, Ballroom

Evening Program

Colors Ceremony/National Anthem
Invocation
Rev. William R. Campbell, S.J. '87
Vice President for Mission

Program Notes
Lester Paquin

Dinner

Reflection on Vietnam
Guest Speakers
Thomas G. Kelley '60 Capt. USN Ret
Joan E. Kelley Cdr. USN Ret
Timothy B. Sullivan '65 Cdr USN Ret
Harry Kustigian USMC Vet

Benediction
Rev. Robert L Keane, S.J.
Captain, CHC, USN (Ret)



2017

The Honorable Jeh C. Johnson
Former Secretary of Homeland
Security & General Counsel of
the Department of Defense

Looking Back

PAST SPEAKERS

2016

VADM Peter Daly, USN (Ret.)
Holy Cross '77
CEO, U.S. Naval Institute

2015

VADM Bill Moran, USN
Chief of Naval Personnel

2014

Admiral Michelle J. Howard, USN
Vice Chief of Naval Operations

2013

Vice Admiral Barry Costello USN
(Ret) Holy Cross '73
Commander, Third Fleet

2012

RADM Garry J. Bonelli
*Deputy Commander, Naval Special
Warfare Command*

2011

Philip J. Crowley, COL, USAF (Ret.),
Holy Cross '73
*Former Assistant Secretary of State
for Public Affairs*

2010

CAPT Ronald Harrell, USN
*Professor of Naval Science,
Commanding Officer, Holy Cross NROTC*

2009

VADM Peter Daly, USN,
Holy Cross '77
*Deputy Commander,
United States Fleet Forces*

2008

VADM Bruce MacDonald, JAGC,
USN, Holy Cross '78
Navy Judge Advocate General

2007

RDML Arnold Lotring, USN,
Holy Cross '78
*Commander,
Naval Service Training Command*

2006

RDML William McCarthy, USN,
Holy Cross '76
*Commander,
Operational Test and Evaluation Force*

2005

RADM Louis Iasiello, CHC, USN
Chief of Navy Chaplains

2004

Robert Kelly, CAPT, USCGR
General Counsel, HawkEye Systems

2003

Jay O'Callahan, Holy Cross '60
Renowned Storyteller

2002

RDML Thomas Steffins, USN, Holy Cross '69,
Director, Force Protection, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

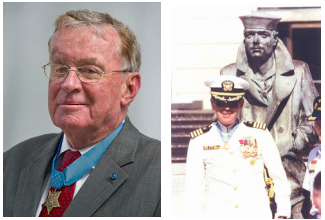
2001

Bernard Trainor, LTGEN USMC (Ret.),
Holy Cross '51
Noted Author and Military Commentator

Reflections on Vietnam

GUEST SPEAKERS

Thomas G. Kelley, Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired)



Thomas G. Kelley was born in Boston, Massachusetts on May 13, 1939, and graduated from Boston College High School in 1956. He attended the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Economics in 1960. He was also commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Navy in 1960 after completing Navy Officer Candidate School. He graduated from the U.S. Navy Postgraduate School in Monterey, California in 1973 with a Master of Arts

in Management, and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Studies from the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology in 2011 for his efforts on behalf of returning Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) Veterans.

In Vietnam, Lieutenant Kelley was in command of River Assault Division 152 — part of the U.S. Navy's Mobile Riverine Force. On June 15, 1969 he led eight boats on a mission to extract a U.S. Army infantry company from the bank of the Ong Muong Canal in Kien Hoa province. During the extraction mission, the convoy came under attack from hostile forces on the opposite bank as one of his boats suffered a mechanical failure which prevented it from raising its loading ramp and getting under way. After ordering the other boats to form a defensive line around the disabled craft, Lieutenant Kelley maneuvered his own boat to the front, between his men and the enemy, and engaged the hostile force. He received a severe head wound when a rocket struck near him, penetrating the boat's armor and spraying shrapnel in all directions. Although unable to stand or speak clearly, he continued to relay directions to the convoy with the help of one of his sailors until the crippled boat was repaired and the group was able to depart safely. Lieutenant Kelley survived his wounds, was promoted to Lieutenant Commander, and in a White House ceremony on May 13, 1970, he was presented the Medal of Honor by President Richard M. Nixon.

Despite the loss of one eye during his combat action on June 15, 1969, Lieutenant Commander Kelley requested and received authorization to remain in the military, and he served an additional 21 years on active duty as a Navy officer. His last duty position in the military was serving in Washington as the Special Assistant for Legislation and Oversight to the Chief of Naval Personnel. After 30 years of active commissioned service, he retired at the rank of captain in 1990.

Joan E. Kelley, Commander USN Ret



A former practicing attorney and Navy officer, Joan has rehabilitated herself by becoming a writer. She co-authored with her husband, Tom Kelley, "The Siren's Call and Second Chances", a joint military memoir about perseverance, service, courage and love. Available on Amazon, all net book sales go to local veterans' charities.

A year ago, she became a consultant on a Netflix eight-part documentary, "Medal of Honor", (release date of 2019). Inspired and encouraged by her film-making experience, Joan completed a screenwriting certificate from Emerson College, Boston, and has three finished screenplays that she is shopping around.

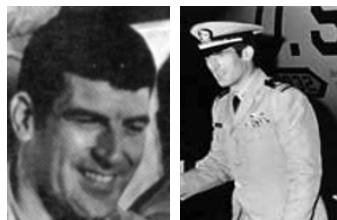
Although Joan protested the Vietnam War in college, a trip to the former East Berlin gave her new eyes on the balance of world power and America's role in it.

Following a family tradition of military service, Joan joined the Naval Reserve post-Vietnam. Using her Boston University master's degree in public relations, she served on active duty assignments in protocol and community relations in Boston, as well as training duty in Norway and Italy with NATO. She retired from the Navy in 1991 after Operation Desert Storm.

Before moving to public service, Joan practiced residential real estate law. She was an assistant city solicitor in Somerville, MA, then general counsel for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Veterans' Services where she also coordinated a women veterans' program. She served on the V.A.'s Advisory Committee on women veterans and was an attorney for the V.A.'s Board of Veterans' Appeals.

When not walking with her women Shwaker friends (that's short for shoppers-walkers) Joan enjoys British TV, gardening, comedy, and trying to keep up with her sports-minded husband. She struggles to remember the difference between the Stanley Cup and the Ryder Cup and the All Star and the Super Bowl. She volunteers at her church and supports veterans' groups. Joan and Tom have four children and two grandchildren between them.

Timothy B. Sullivan '65 CDR USN Ret



Tim Sullivan had been on active duty in Vietnam for about two years flying from USS Coral Sea when his F-4 he was shot down between Hanoi and Haiphong. In November of 1967, he became a prisoner of war (POW). Until then, he had only seen photos of North Vietnamese prison camps in Life magazine. From 1967 to 1972, he experienced them. He was taken to countless POW camps, including the infamous “Hanoi Hilton.”

In Hanoi, then Ltjg Sullivan and the other new arrivals were beaten and tied up with ropes upon their arrival. Mistreatment would stop only if a prisoner started revealing information helpful to the North Vietnamese. As a junior officer, Tim’s situation was not as bad as the older men who suffered more frequent beatings and broken bones. But he found the boredom grueling. One of his fellow prisoners had a mute family member and taught the others how to communicate using sign language. He figured out ways to communicate with those in adjoining cells by tapping out messages on the walls.

In March 1972, Tim and many other POW’s were released from the North Vietnam camps. Readapting to life in the United States was not traumatic for Tim. Ongoing physical and psychological programs that were available helped these POW’s adjust. *[Above excerpted from Holy Cross Magazine, April 1999]*

Tim was awarded the Silver Star in 1972. The citation is in the NROTC O’Callahan Room in Carlin Hall. It reads in part ‘...for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while interned as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam... Lieutenant Commander Sullivan’s captors, completely ignoring international agreements, subjected him to extreme mental and physical cruelties in an attempt to obtain military information and false confessions for propaganda purposes. Through his resistance to those brutalities, he contributed significantly toward the eventual abandonment of harsh treatment by the North Vietnamese, which was attracting international attention. By his determination, courage, resourcefulness and devotion, Lieutenant Commander Sullivan reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

Tim remained on active duty and was later assigned to the Navy Survival School in Brunswick, Maine. There he began teaching a new generation of military recruits about survival and the military Code of Conduct as a POW.

Upon his retirement from the Navy in 1994, he was awarded the Legion of Merit. The citation reads in part ‘...for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services...as Officer in Charge assigned to Fleet Aviation Specialized Operational (FASO) Training Group, Atlantic Fleet, Brunswick, Maine from February 1983 through August 1994. An extremely competent and resourceful leader, Commander Sullivan has provided steady and mature leadership to guide FASO Detachment Brunswick through design, construction and movement into a new training facility... Utilizing his extensive personal Prisoner of War experiences, he wisely directed the education of more than 24,000 high-risk-of-capture military personnel in survival, evasion, resistance and escape techniques, and the Code of Conduct. Additionally, he personally conducted more than 60 advanced SERE lectures to deploying squadrons and air wings, providing critically important deployment area information, and preparing the Navy and Marine Corps personnel that would be held as POWs by Iraq during the Persian Gulf War. By his outstanding leadership, commendable innovation and inspiring dedication to duty, Commander Sullivan reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Tim’s post-military career has included a tenure at the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services. He served under then-Secretary of Veterans Services Thomas Kelley during the construction of the Massachusetts Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Green Hill Park in Worcester, and Tim supervised the selection of the 13 “letters home” from Vietnam veterans now inscribed in the Place of Words at that statewide tribute.

Harry Kustigian USMC, 1966– 1969

A Family’s Vietnam Experience



At 18, Harry Kustigian enlisted in the Marine Corps. He arrived in South Vietnam in October 1967 to begin a one-year tour of duty. He was a jet engine mechanic working on Marine aircraft at Chu Lai Air Base. The base provided close air support for the Marines in the northern most province of South Vietnam bordering North Vietnam.

On the morning of January 31, 1968, the Viet Cong attacked the base with rockets and mortars that triggered an explosion in a bomb storage area and that damaged or destroyed 26 aircraft.

Harry recalled that morning ‘... a big explosion happened like a nuclear bomb went off. It blew me off my feet 10 feet from the shock waves... They blew it up somehow all over the country.... It looked like a nuclear explosion and that is the closest I ever came to something like that.’

It was the beginning of the Tet Offensive, a coordinated series of North Vietnamese attacks on more than 100 cities and outposts in South Vietnam.

Harry is the oldest of five boys who grew up in the Main South neighborhood of Worcester. His younger brother, Michael 17, wanted to join Harry in the Marines. However, their parents convinced Michael to enlist in the Navy, praying it would keep him safely away from combat.

In the summer of 1967, the last time they would be together, Harry and Michael spent two days together in California before they shipped out for Vietnam. USS Long Beach, Michael’s ship, deployed to the Gulf of Tonkin in early 1968.

On May 6, 1968, a Marine lieutenant told Harry that his brother was missing in action off the coast of South Vietnam approximately 24 miles from land.

Eleven years later Michael was declared a “Sea Casualty... Non-Hostile, died missing, body not recovered”. His name is on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall. Despite his head stone and empty grave in Worcester’s Hope Cemetery, his mother, now 92, still believes that he is alive after he went missing fifty years ago.

In the years since his service in Vietnam and a successful business career shared with his wife Gail and his family, Harry has been a tireless advocate for Vietnam veterans and their interests.”

Excerpts from www.telegram.com June 2017



Remembering
**Holy Cross Graduates and
 Former Students Who Died
 in the Vietnam War**

The O'Callahan Society honors the sacrifice of the 18 Holy Cross graduates and former students who died in the Vietnam War. Names are in order of date of death.

- December 5, 1965 Sergeant **Philip J. McCarthy '52**, US Army, was killed in the Battle of Ap Nha Mat in Binh Duong Province.
- July 15, 1966 Private First Class **Michael A. Cunnion ex '67**, US Marine Corps Reserve, was killed when the CH-46 helicopter he was riding was shot down in the Song Ngan Valley, Quang Tri Province. While at Holy Cross, he was the quarterback of the varsity football team.
- September 13, 1966 Lieutenant Commander **William F. Coakley '54**, US Navy (NAVCAD), was killed when his A-4 aircraft was shot down on a reconnaissance mission over Thanh Hoa Province, North Vietnam. LCDR Coakley had received a Master's degree from Harvard University and had previously served as a social aide to President Johnson.
- March 18, 1967 Captain **Lawrence J. Celmer '62**, US Marine Corps (NROTC), was killed at Thuy Trieu village, Quang Ngai Province.
- August 22, 1967 Lieutenant Junior Grade **Thomas E. Gilliam '65**, US Navy (NROTC), was killed as co-pilot on a UH-1 helicopter during an attack on sampans in Kien Hoa Province.
- September 12, 1967 Captain **Richard R. Kane '64**, US Marine Corps (NROTC), disappeared as a photographer on an RF-4B aircraft over Quang Nam Province. He had been the Midshipman Battalion Commander in his senior year.
- February 5, 1968 Captain **John J. Burke '65**, US Marine Corps (NROTC), was killed when his CH-46 helicopter was shot down in Thua Thien Province.
- February 20, 1968 First Lieutenant **Richard J. Kelley '66**, US Marine Corps Reserve (OCS), drowned in combat, crossing the Thu Bon River in Quang Nam Province.
- March 31, 1968 First Lieutenant **Timothy J. Shorten '64**, US Marine Corps Reserve (OCS), was killed in Quang Tri Province. He was a high school teacher between graduation and joining the Marines and, posthumously, he received Silver and Bronze Stars for combat actions before his death.
- May 2, 1968 Major **Joseph M. Loughran '55**, US Marine Corps (PLC), was killed during search and destroy operations in Quang Tri Province near Khe Sanh.

- May 15, 1968 First Lieutenant **Robert M. Donovan '67**, US Army Reserve (OCS), was killed as a tank commander in Binh Duong Province.
- October 27, 1968 First Lieutenant **Thomas A. Biddulph '67**, US Army Reserve (OCS), was killed in Quang Tin Province. He received a Bronze Star.
- December 20, 1968 Captain **Richard G. Morin '66**, US Marine Corps (NROTC), as an F-4 aircraft Radar Intercept Officer, did not return from a night bombing mission over Laos and was declared Missing in Action.
- February 23, 1969 Hospital Corpsman Third Class **Eugene J. Garrity '66**, US Navy, was killed while tending wounded Marines in Quang Nam Province on his first combat patrol.
- August 29, 1969 Second Lieutenant **Michael P. Quinn '68**, US Marine Corps Reserve (PLC), was killed on patrol south of Danang in the Hiep Duc Valley, An Hoa Basin, Quang Nam Province. He received a posthumous Bronze Star.
- June 26, 1970 Chief Warrant Officer **Dennis J. Brault ex '70**, US Army, was killed as pilot of an AH-1 Cobra helicopter when hit by ground fire in Phuoc Long Province. He was in NROTC his freshman year.
- May 7, 1971 First Lieutenant **Frank W. Bengtson ex '71**, US Army Reserve (OCS), was killed as pilot of an OH-6A helicopter when shot down near the Chup Rubber Plantation in Cambodia. He was in NROTC his freshman year.
- August 25, 1972 Lieutenant Commander **Michael W. Doyle '64**, US Navy (NROTC), was shot down in an F-4 aircraft near Hanoi on his 250th combat mission. It is not certain whether he died immediately or as a Prisoner of War.



Commissioning Sources:
 NROTC Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps
 PLC Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course
 OCS Officer Candidate School
 NAVCAD Naval Aviation Cadet

Data Sources:
 Memorial Plaque in St. Joseph Chapel
 "Vietnam and Holy Cross: A Timeline" by Jack O'Connell '81, Holy Cross Magazine, Volume 33, Number 2, April 1999
 Online research

2018 NROTC at Holy Cross FACULTY AND STAFF

Commander Christopher Benjamin USN, WSU '99
Commanding Officer, Chair of Naval Science

Captain Timothy Wrenn, USMC
Marine Office Instructor

Lieutenant Ryan Kelly, USN
Surface Warfare Officer

Lieutenant Edwin Konrad, USN
Submarine Warfare Officer

Lieutenant Benjamin Wedewer USN
Aviation Warfare Officer

GynSgt Patrick DeForge, USMC
Assistant Marine Officer Instructor

Mr. Demetrius Perry USN Ret
Human Resources Assistant

Mr. Robert Marchetta USA Ret
Supply Technician

Mrs. Cynthia Hayes
College Secretary



Ensign Michael Carboni USN

West Islip NY
College of the Holy Cross
Political Science
Submarine Warfare
Nuclear Power School
Charleston, SC

2nd Lieutenant Brandon Greb USMC

Arizona City AZ
Worcester State University
Business/Economics
The Basic School
Quantico VA

Ensign Matthew Casale USN

Ridgewood NJ
College of the Holy Cross
Economics/History
Surface Warfare
USS Arlington [LPD-24]
Norfolk VA

Ensign Alex Harper USN

Hanover MA
College of the Holy Cross
International Studies
Explosive Ordnance/Diving/Salvage
Training
Panama City FL

2nd Lieutenant Cullen Coulter USMC

Tewksbury MA
Worcester State University
Criminal Justice
The Basic School
Quantico, VA

Ensign Travis Rossen USN

West Springfield MA
Worcester Polytechnic University
Mechanical Engineering
Surface Warfare [Nuclear]
USS Port Royal [CG-73]
Pearl Harbor HI

2018 NROTC GRADUATES

Ensign Kristen Bender USN

Simi Valley CA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Mechanical Engineering/Professional Writing
Surface Warfare/Engineering Duty Officer
USS Lake Erie [CG-70]
San Diego CA

Ensign Anderson Derosier USN

Bethel CT
Chemical Engineering
Submarine Warfare
Nuclear Power School
Charleston SC

Craig Fischbach USN

Highstown NJ
College of the Holy Cross
International Studies
Surface Warfare
USS Spruance [DDG-111]
San Diego, CA

Ensign Daniel Salisbury USN

Enfield CT
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
USS Decatur [DDG-73]
San Diego CA

Ensign Joseph Tomellini USN

Rehoboth MA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Mechanical Engineering
Aviation
Pensacola FL

Rev. Joseph T. O'Callahan, S.J., 1905-1964
FATHER O'CALLAHAN AND USS FRANKLIN



In 1938 the Reverend Joseph T. O'Callahan, S.J. came to the College of the Holy Cross to chair the mathematics department. In the summer of 1940 with war raging in Europe, he was commissioned a lieutenant junior grade into the Chaplain Corps of the U.S. Navy, its first Jesuit chaplain. Upon reporting to Pensacola Naval Air Station in November, in addition to his chaplain duties, his duties included teaching calculus to young naval aviators. Later Father O'Callahan reported to the aircraft carrier USS RANGER and took part in combat operations in the Atlantic and the invasion of North Africa. In the spring of 1944, he was transferred west, eventually reporting to Pearl Harbor Naval Station in December.

On March 2, 1945, Lieutenant Commander O'Callahan boarded the aircraft carrier USS FRANKLIN to assume the duties of the senior chaplain

to more than 3000 Sailors, Marines, aviators and officers. In the early hours of the next morning, the ship weighed anchor for the western Pacific. On March 19, he and his shipmates stepped onto the pages of history.

While conducting combat air operations against the Japanese home islands, FRANKLIN was attacked by a single enemy aircraft. Its bombs set off conflagrations and explosions that were fueled by the carrier's stores of gasoline and munitions. The ship was ravaged for more than twenty-four hours, resulting in over a 1000 casualties including over 800 dead. If the fires and the detonations were not controlled, FRANKLIN would sink with greater loss of life.



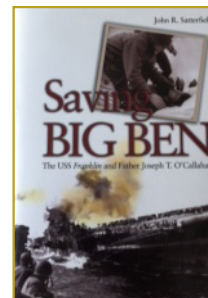
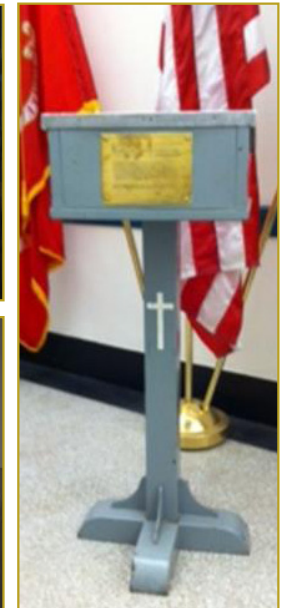
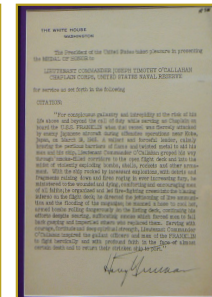
From FRANKLIN's bridge, Captain Leslie Gehres observed Father O'Callahan moving about the chaos on the flight deck. The chaplain was easily recognized by his helmet, emblazoned with a white cross.

He was not only ministering to the injured and dying, he was also organizing, leading and inspiring his dazed and disoriented shipmates to fight the fires and jettison dangerous ordnance that had not yet detonated from the heat. At one point, after receiving a thumbs up from Father O'Callahan on the flight deck, the captain declared to his Marine orderly, "That's the bravest man I ever saw."

For his actions that helped save their ship, Captain Gehres recommended his chaplain for the Medal of Honor. When Father O'Callahan received the award from President Harry Truman in January 1946 he was Commander O'Callahan, the first Navy chaplain to receive that honor.

Father O'Callahan returned to the College to teach theology and philosophy. However, in a few years, the injuries that he suffered on that fateful day forced him to give up classroom teaching. Living on campus, he remained mentally active, serving as a mentor to young Jesuits and writing an account of his Navy service that was published in 1956.

Father O'Callahan died in 1964 at age 58. He was buried with military honors in the Jesuit cemetery. This is one of three places on campus where he is remembered. His headstone is different from the ones of his brother Jesuits. In addition to the traditional Jesuit Latin inscription it is also inscribed with the date and place of his heroic actions and its recognition in the Medal of Honor.

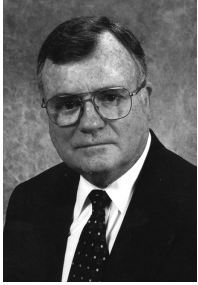


Memorials

Lieutenant General Bernard E. Trainor

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS 1928 – 2018

HOLY CROSS NROTC, CLASS OF 1951



“Sure, why not!”

Seventeen years ago, with those words, Bernard (“Mick”) Trainor revitalized the O’Callahan Society (then the O’Callahan NROTC Committee) and gave us energy to pursue our goals of honoring Father Joseph O’Callahan, Medal of Honor recipient, honoring those who serve, assisting the College’s Navy ROTC Unit and promoting a liberal arts perspective within the Navy and Marine Corps.

The Committee was signed into existence in mid-nineties by Father John Brooks, President of the College. Sadly, by the turn of the century, it had been dormant for at least two years. In 2001, we

resolved to renew our efforts and hit upon the idea of establishing an ‘O’Callahan Speaker Series’ to provide, we hoped, much needed exposure.

The rub, of course, was finding a prominent guest to kick off the series, especially since we couldn’t even cover expenses. The task of recruiting the ‘First O’Callahan Speaker’ fell to me as Chair. With a novice’s enthusiasm, I forged ahead only to discover I was headed down a difficult and discouraging road. After calling a number of candidates, I soon developed a cringe since each invitation extended was met with silence immediately followed by polite refusal. Visions of our inaugural event began to fade.

Increasingly pessimistic, I discussed the situation with Committee members including, as I recall, Father Brooks. In fact, it may have been Father who suggested a name I should have thought of but hadn’t: Mick Trainor, Class of ’51.

Shortly afterwards, I found myself on the phone with the General at his home in Wellesley, Massachusetts. In due course, I presented our invitation and once again cringed because my offer was followed by the inevitable silence. Once more, I braced for the rejection I was sure was coming.

After a few (long) seconds, Mick said “well”, and then, “Sure, why not?”. Relaxation immediately ensued and as the cliché goes “the rest is history”.

Saturday, November 10, 2001, our First O’Callahan Speaker, General Trainor, addressed a capacity audience at the Crown Plaza in downtown Worcester. He presented a riveting, thoughtful, and informed analysis of events leading to September 11, 2001 and the region which produced the attackers. He concluded by entertaining questions and comments from very engaged listeners.

Not only was our kickoff a happy success but the prominence and accomplishments of our speaker did, in fact, give us the exposure we had hoped. The “Speaker Series”, now in its 17th year, has moved back on campus and more recently into the Hogan Ballroom, usually to a full house.

We owe much to Mick Trainor for sharing his expertise, knowledge and time with us. To acknowledge our debt, we must acknowledge the life which shaped the man who spoke so well to and with us on that November day in 2001.

Bernard Trainor joined the Marine Corps near the end of World War II and shortly thereafter entered the NROTC Unit at Holy Cross. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps and fought in Korea as a rifle platoon leader. Later, as a field grade officer, he completed two tours of duty in Vietnam and twice held combat commands. Among other honors, he earned the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Navy Commendation Medal, all with “V” for valor.

Back in the United States, he vigorously pursued further intellectual growth and development. An early accomplishment was a Master’s Degree in history earned from the University of Colorado in 1963 where he did other advanced study. After also graduating from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, he attended the USAF Air War College in Montgomery, Alabama where he received the Anderson Leadership Research & Writing Award presented for excellence in research and writing.

As his Washington Post obituary of June 4, 2018 put it:

As a general officer he was noted for his advanced thinking and was a key player in the overhaul of Marine recruiting after... the Vietnam War. He played a significant role in the transition to the ... all volunteer force, and was an influential thinker in revision of professional military education. *His many articles in military journals are still standard reading.*”

After serving as a deputy to the Commandant of the Marine Corps assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Trainor retired from the Marine Corps in 1985.

As a civilian, he continued intellectual pursuits and ventured into journalism by joining the New York Times as a correspondent. When he left the Times in 1990 to become Director of the National Security Program at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, he retained his affiliation with the Times News Service and later appeared on NBC and ABC as a military analyst. This writer recall seeing him in that role many times during the first Gulf War.

In 1995, General Trainor, with Michael R. Gordon, chief military correspondent for the New York Times, wrote *The Generals’War*, first of three books dealing with the wars in Iraq. In 2012, they completed the trilogy with the publication of *The Endgame: The Inside Story of the Struggle for Iraq*.

His Washington Post obituary of June 4 notes that *The Generals’War* is “the acclaimed analysis of the Gulf War” and states that the trilogy volumes “remain the canonical accounts of the wars in Iraq”.

The June 2 New York Times tribute quotes Dr. Jon Scott Logel of the Naval War College suggesting that *Endgame* is, perhaps, “*the best attempt to understand the complex relationship of Maliki with other Shiite groups, the Iranians, the Sunnis and the Kurds’ in their competition for power*”. It is no wonder he commanded such attention as our initial O’Callahan Speaker.

The Honorable Paul V. Mullaney '42

WAR HERO - PUBLIC SERVANT, 1919 - 2017

In 1996, General Trainor left the Kennedy School to accept a senior fellowship at the Council of Foreign Relations and remained an active observer of and participant in American life. He continued to be honored for his contributions to the service, the nation and the public.

One such honor, the *Sanctae Crucis Award* of the College of the Holy Cross is the highest the College confers on its alumni. In 2008, Holy Cross named him as that year's recipient, citing his 'Christian leadership' qualities and achievements. Five years later, he received the Goodpaster Award from the American Veterans Center. In 2017, the Foreign Policy Research Institute recognized his achievements by establishing the Lieutenant General Bernard E. Trainor USMC Veterans Fellowship.

Throughout, he remained a man who cherished his life with his wife of 59 years, the former Peggy Hamilton, their daughters and their granddaughters. In turn, they remember:

his love of an open fire after a good hike and his love of dinner table debate; his moral gravity... his empathy and sensitivity; his intellectual seriousness and his delight in a well told joke or good performance. His was a genuinely open mind, devoid of snobbery, intellectually curious, but practical and incisive in action..... We will always recall his memory in the scent of a cigar, the clink of ice in a Manhattan, and the pleasures of a lively argument no one will win.

(Washington Post, June 4)

One theme permeating the O'Callahan Society and its activities is the value of a liberal arts education. Such an education, we believe, does foster "intellectual seriousness" and does inform individuals who do possess genuinely open minds, are devoid of snobbery, are intellectually curious and, yes, enjoy a good joke.

Bernard Trainor was such an individual, and, to this writer, epitomized the Holy Cross graduate educated in the Jesuit tradition and living a life molded by that tradition. It was a pleasure to encounter him on my own life's journey and it was an honor to work with him for the success of the O'Callahan Society.

Thank you, General; thank you, Mick.

Bill Dempsey, Class of 1963

CDR, USNR (Ret.)

Chair Emeritus, O'Callahan Society



With the passing of The Honorable Paul V. Mullaney in November 2017 the O'Callahan Society will miss this true son of Worcester, Massachusetts and the College of the Holy Cross. He was a man who had many titles including Lieutenant, Counselor, Mayor and Judge.

A curious and dedicated student, Paul entered the College in 1938. He and classmate John Power were students of Joseph O'Callahan, S.J. In 1940 Father O'Callahan received a commission in the Naval Reserve, its first Jesuit chaplain. After the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 Paul and John enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve and report for active duty after graduation in 1942. Captain O'Callahan, USN and Lieutenant Power USMC were later awarded Medals of Honor

for their heroic deeds in the Pacific Theater in World War II.

Paul served also served in the Pacific, including duty stations in Hawaii, Tinian and Guam. After the war he graduated with honors from the Boston College School of Law in 1948.

In 1950, Paul again joined the Marine Corps Reserve unit in Worcester. At the onset of the war on the Korean peninsula, his unit was activated and sent there in August. A month later he was wounded in the battle for Seoul. Paul was wounded again in October and then again in November at the battle at the Chosin Reservoir. This time he was evacuated by helicopter to Japan, and spent a year recovering in the Naval Hospital in Chelsea, Massachusetts.



Paul was awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts for his service in the Korean War. His Silver Star citation is on display in the O'Callahan Room in Carlin Hall. It describes Lieutenant Mullaney's '... initiative, professional skill and heroic actions... leading his men up a steep hill in an assault on strong enemy positions when... painfully wounded and weakened... he continued to lead his men and direct their fire until... the objective was seized...

he then skillfully stationed his men in defensive positions and successfully repelled a determined enemy counterattack...

Paul returned to civilian life in 1952. He married Sallie McDermott and together they raised a family of nine children. Paul's service and ordeal in Korea foreshadowed a life of public service.

While practicing law he was elected to the Worcester City Council in 1960. He served there for ten years. During this period, Paul also served a term as the city's mayor. In 1978 he was appointed by the governor to the bench in the Worcester County District Court. Judge Mullaney served until his retirement in 1991..

In June 2014, Worcester's City Hall Plaza was formally named and dedicated as The Honorable Paul V. Mullaney Plaza. In September he was honored at O'Callahan Society dinner for his service to the Country, Commonwealth, City and the College.

Memorials

Edwin Paul Meyer '44 – of the 'Greatest Generation'

MARCH 28, 1923 ~ AUGUST 4, 2018



Edwin P Meyer passed away in Worcester MA. He was born, raised and lived in Worcester for most of his life. Ed Meyer was a member and perhaps the last survivor of the first Holy Cross Navy ROTC class of midshipmen commissioned on Mount St James. In the fall of 1941 he was admitted to the College of the Holy Cross and accepted into its newly established, four-year NROTC program.

Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, Holy Cross and the Navy accelerated their academic and training calendars. The midshipmen studied and trained through summers and weekends to finish their requirements in less than four years. Midshipman Meyer and 47 others completed these requirements in under three years. Ed was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics and received a commission in the US Navy in February 1944.

Ensign Meyer immediately shipped out to the Pacific Theater on the USS Frederick Funston, the largest attack transport in the Navy. He participated in the invasions of Iwo Jima, Leyte, and Luzon in the Philippines, landing Marines on the beaches while his ship served double duty as a hospital for the wounded. While enroute to the invasion of Okinawa, the Funston was damaged by bombs from a Japanese plane forcing it to return to San Francisco for repairs.



Ed used that brief respite from the war to marry his high school sweet heart, Claire Lorraine Hammond, in July 1945 in Worcester. After a short honeymoon he was ordered back to his now repaired ship. While supervising the reloading of the Funston for the invasion of Japan, the war ended with the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Ed and Claire celebrated VJ Day in San Francisco before he again shipped out to bring U.S. troops back home.

After the war Ed and Claire settled in Worcester and raised their family of five children. He was a decades long member of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish and served on many committees and projects for the church. He was employed by Leon Barrett Centrifugals, Inc. serving as Vice President for much of his forty-two-year career. He furthered his education at WPI's industrial management school. Both Ed and Claire were strong believers in higher education and provided for college degrees for all five of their children. Claire passed away in 1990. In retirement on Cape Cod, Ed served as director of the Holy Cross Club of CC, as an officer of the Worcester Club of CC, and as director of the Retired Men's Club of CC. He was also an active member of Our Lady of the Cape Church.

In recent years Ed, with his family, regularly attended the NROTC Presidents Review and the O'Callahan Society dinner on campus. In 2016 the Society celebrated 75 years of NROTC at Holy Cross. At the dinner Ed was honored as a member of Holy Cross' first Navy ROTC class. A new midshipmen battalion conference room in Carlin Hall will be designated the Edwin P. Meyer '44 Room.

Excerpts above from Rice Funeral Home obituary

Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

In Memory of

*Holy Cross Graduates and Former Students
who didn't come home from the Vietnam War*



CAPT. Brendan J. O'Donnell, '71 USN (Ret.)



David Johnson '73

*"In Memory of past,
current and future
Navy Divers"*

35 MECHANIC STREET
HOPE VALLEY, RI 02832
TEL (401) 539-2446
FAX (401) 539-0055

Donald Fitzpatrick

Captain United States Navy (Ret.)

O'Callahan Society Member

O'Callahan Society Executive Committee Member

NROTC Instructor 1961-1964

**1958 - 1973
VIETNAM WARS**

We honor the memory of those who served.

All gave something, some gave their all.

Godspeed.

*~ Bill McCarthy '76
Rear Adm. U.S. Navy (ret)*

In memory of our classmates

CPT John J. Burke, USMC

February 5, 1968

LTJG Thomas E. Gilliam, USN

August 22, 1967

They paid the ultimate sacrifice.



“Dulve bellum inexpertis”

Erasmus

Holy Cross, 1965 ROTC Unit

William S. Thomas '65

WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST EVAN!



*Love Always,
Mom, Dad, Cameron, Lauren & Brady!*

In memory of
Major
Patrick L. Townsend

NROTC College of the Holy Cross

1977/1981

Founding Member of the

O'Callahan Society



In memory of

Lawrence J. (Larry) Celmer

Captain of Marines

Holy Cross Class of 1962

More than a half century ago, on March 18, 1967, in the Quang Ngai Province of the Republic of Vietnam,

Captain Larry Celmer, a Marine Infantry Officer serving his second tour of duty in country made the ultimate sacrifice for his God, his Nation and his beloved Corps. He was truly a Marine's Marine and, indeed, the very best Holy Cross had to offer.

We miss him. May he always rest in peace.

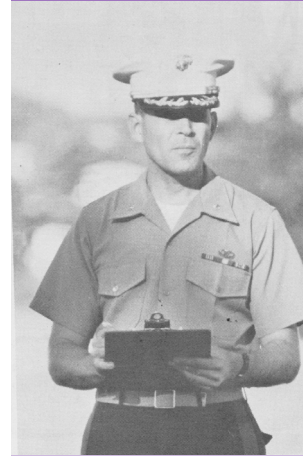
Lest we forget.



Semper Fidelis,

Edward A. Cercone
Colonel of Marines

1962 Holy Cross NROTC Unit and Fellow Crusader Classmates



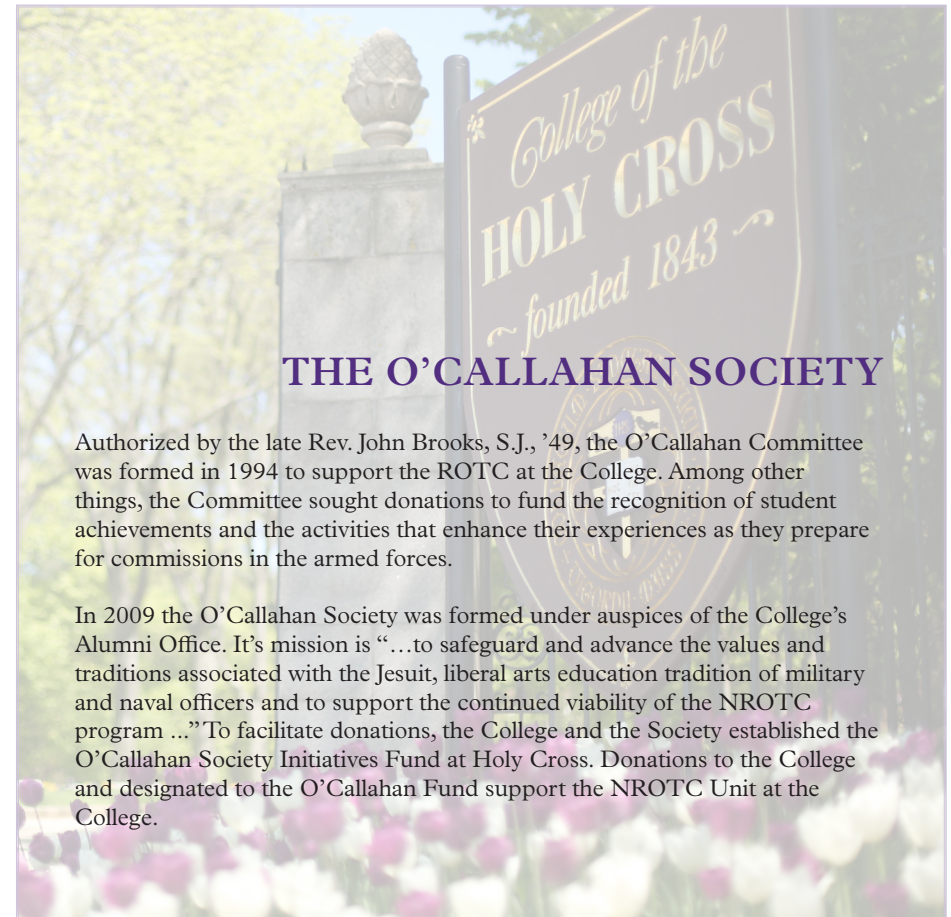
Major Burzak USMC (MOI '83-'85)

Thirty plus years on and counting... looking for a few good parties to become members of the O'Callahan Society

Join today... add your name to the Society's e-mail list by contacting us at ocallahan@holycross.edu.

Non sibi sed patriae

Semper Fidelis



THE O'CALLAHAN SOCIETY

Authorized by the late Rev. John Brooks, S.J., '49, the O'Callahan Committee was formed in 1994 to support the ROTC at the College. Among other things, the Committee sought donations to fund the recognition of student achievements and the activities that enhance their experiences as they prepare for commissions in the armed forces.

In 2009 the O'Callahan Society was formed under auspices of the College's Alumni Office. Its mission is "...to safeguard and advance the values and traditions associated with the Jesuit, liberal arts education tradition of military and naval officers and to support the continued viability of the NROTC program ..." To facilitate donations, the College and the Society established the O'Callahan Society Initiatives Fund at Holy Cross. Donations to the College and designated to the O'Callahan Fund support the NROTC Unit at the College.

**In loving memory
of our dear friend**



“We stick together” — The fighting Sullivans

CDR Paul F. Quinn, USN (RET)

Class of '72

Secretary, USS THE SULLIVANS (DDG 68) Foundation

Welcome back from Summer Cruise
Congratulations to Class of 2019

In Memory of

Thomas M Delehaunty LTjg USNR
Hellcat Pilot - 92 combat sorties with VF-46

Aboard USS Independence CV -22

John A Hlavaty LTjg USNR
Naval Intelligence Hawaii and Guam

~ Kath & Jim Delehaunty '67, P90

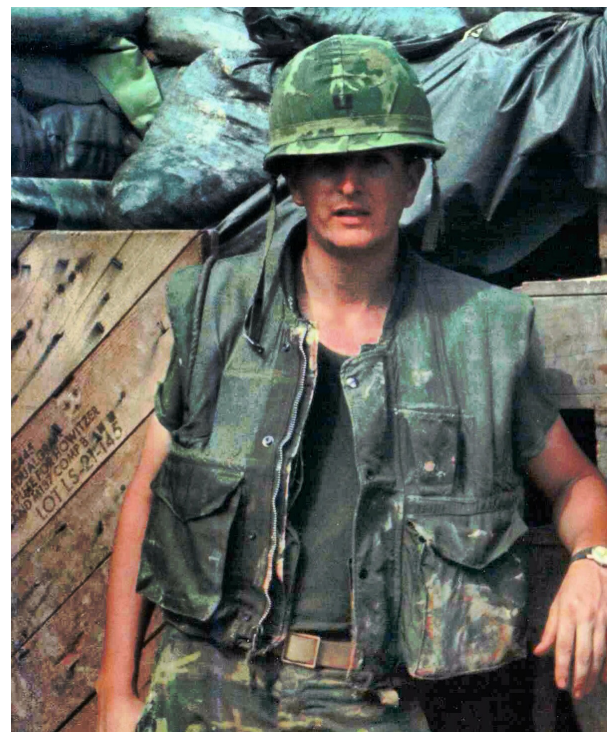
To the memory of
LT Joseph C. Zemaitis, USAF '51

~Bob Zemaitis '52

In Memory of

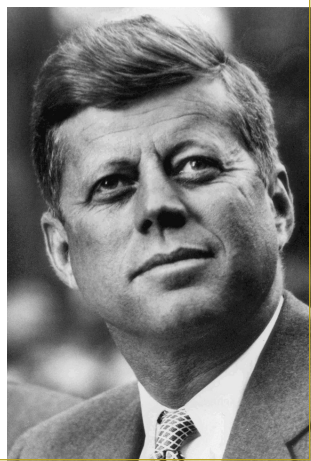
Rev. John E. Brooks, S.J.

And with congratulations to graduates
of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit



*“Any man who may be asked in this century
What he did to make his life worthwhile
Can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction,
I served in the United States Navy.”*

*President John F. Kennedy
August 2, 1961
U.S. Naval Academy*



Best Wishes,
Captain William McGurk '63, USN (Ret.)

Remembering

Lieutenant (JG) Russ Keene,
United States Navy
College of the Holy Cross / NROTC,
Class of 1963
Lieutenant Colonel John McGuire,
United States Air Force (Retired)
College of the Holy Cross / Air Force ROTC,
Class of 1963



Bill Dempsey, USNR (Ret.) '63

In Memory of

**Lieutenant Commander
William F. Coakley USN**

Class of 1954

Naval Aviator
Killed in Action, North Vietnam

SEPTEMBER 13, 1966



In Memory of

Petty Officer Robert V. Dooley USN
1LT Paul M. Dooley USA KIA (1944)
Lt. Col. Louis Renaud USAF (ret.) HC '41
Major Patrick Townsend USMC (ret.)



In Honor of

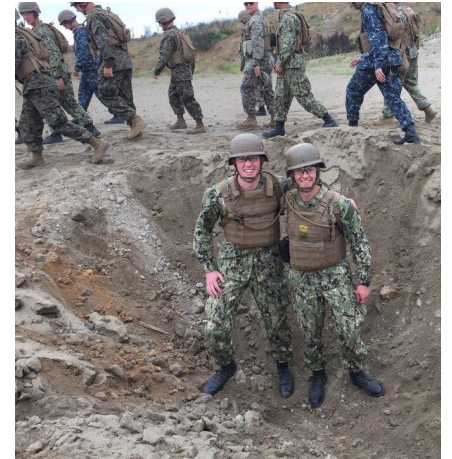
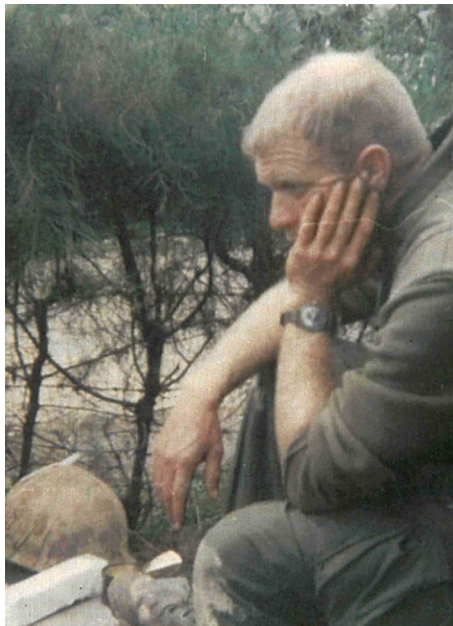
Sgt James Goddard USMC HC '51
Semper Fi
LtCol Susan Dooley USMC (ret.) HC '81

CONGRATULATIONS

Thomas V. Ralph, Jr.

*And the entire NROTC
Commissioning Class of 2019!*

The Ralph Family



Welcome to the O'Callahan Society's Annual Fall Dinner. I would like to thank each of you for coming out tonight in support of the Holy Cross Battalion. For the past decade, the midshipmen of the battalion have benefited from the support and dedication of the wonderful men and women of the O'Callahan Society. Their contributions to the unit allow us to send midshipmen to a variety of training events including leadership conferences, SEAL and EOD training weekends, the Women's Symposium and many others. The dedicated support of the O'Callahan Society, coupled with the legacy of Father O'Callahan, leaves no question as to why the midshipmen graduates of the Holy Cross unit are some of the finest officers in the Navy and Marine Corps today. It is our pleasure to share this evening with you as we continue on our mission to develop ourselves mentally, morally and physically through our training to become members of the world's finest military force. On behalf of the Crusader Battalion, thank you again for your support and we hope you enjoy the evening.

MIDN 1/C Thomas Ralph, Battalion Commander



Holy Cross NROTC



WPI



**WORCESTER
STATE
UNIVERSITY**



BROWN