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From: "GERALD F MERNA" <gfmerna_usmc@msn.com>
To: <cokerc@co.rockland.ny.us>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2006 12:47 AM
Subject: Thank You



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Ms Coker:

I wanted to personally thank you very much for not only taking the time to be present at our St. Agnes Alumni Assn. 60th Anniversary Dedication and speaking to us, but also for joining your colleague John A. Murphy in issuing a Proclamation in honor of our 39 Alumni who paid the supreme sacrifice in the service of our country.

My Oldest Brother George was one of those 39; he was killed at age 19 off the coast of Leyte when his LST-577 (Landing ship Tank--humorously referred to by sailors as "Low, Slow Target) was struck with torpedoes from a Japanese Submarine. He left St. Agnes at 17 in 1943 and died February 11, 1945. So you know how much that "remembrance" meant to me and my Siblings. Just a month ago we lost another Marine Brother, Richard, at 71, following several operations in a Maryland hospital. Like his brother Jim and I, he also served in the Korean War.

The Merna's are a military family: three Marine Brothers, two Navy Brothers, and our Dad was briefly in the old Army Air Corps. The experiences of St. Dominic's and St. Agnes contributed in no small way to whatever successes we enjoyed during and after our military service.

Your support of the St. Agnes Alumni Association is deeply appreciated.

Here are several pictures taken on August 19th that will serve to remind you of your participation:



Piermont VFW Auxiliary, Wreath, and 3 Plaques



Ms. Coker reads and presents StAAA Pres. Art Kingsley a Proclamation in Honor of 39 St. AAA members who paid the supreme sacrifice



Rockland Co. Legislator John A. Murphy joins fellow Legislator Connie L. Coker in issuing Proclamation





Rev.Fr. Ray Masterson,
also a STAAA, gives
blessing to attendees and
Plaques



**StAAA and Nuns gather
around Plaques**



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