

**dtf**

**From:** "GERALD F MERNA" <gfmerna\_usmc@msn.com>  
**To:** "STAA--Stanaitis Joe" <JOVE1960@WARWICK.NET>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 31, 2006 12:12 AM  
**Subject:** Jerry Merna and David Kee at St. Agnes Alumni 60th Annual Reunion & Memorial Dedication

**Joe et al:**

Here's the "cover" that was mentioned in the previous email. Note the error that I corrected in that email.

**Tell me, what were their names...?**

Gerald F. Merna and David Kee look for familiar names on the memorial plaque at the Dominican Sisters convent in Sparkill. The plaque commemorates the 39 alumni of St. Agnes Home for Boys, run by the Sparkill Dominicans who died in World War II.

The two were among a number of alumni who attended ceremonies Saturday celebrating the 60th anniversary of the alumni association.

Merna read out the name of his brother, George, one of seven siblings at St. Agnes.

George Merna, a Navy signalman, died on an LST at the battle of Leyte Gulf.

Boys from St. Agnes attended Tappan Zee High School; many left to serve in the armed forces at the outbreak of World War II. Gerald Merna was 18 when he was killed.

St. Agnes alumni were also part of the larger community of Piermont and Sparkill. Gerald Merna married Dorothy Sedlack of Piermont. He had not seen his classmate, David Kee, in 56 years.

Story and photo by Arthur S. Aldrich

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 YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS LEADER  
 Volume 33, No. 38      Wednesday, August 23, 2006      24 Pages

**& Northern Bergen since 1973**

Back to School Pages 10 - 18  
 Real Estate Pages 21 - 24

INSIDE THIS WEEK

**Jerry**  
**Gerald F. (Jerry) Merna**