

A Tragic Act'

A tragic act happened to Wave Irene M. Conole of Patuxent Naval Air Station, Md. and formerly of Holy Rosary parish, Rochester, N.Y. The sudden and violent death of the said Wave was a shock. The stories connected with her murder have been published through the country. But lest there be any misinterpretations connected with the same, it seems proper for me as her Pastor, to portray what is her real character and reputation from the family, schools and other reliable sources. I owe it in justice to her memory.

Wave Irene M. Conole was educated in Holy Rosary School and her scholastic and social record was perfect. The same is true of her Nazareth Academy High School record. Her associates report her efficient in business occupations. She

Portraits

By JAMES METCALFE

I Mean It, Dear

THE MOMENTS I have had with you . . . I never could repent . . . For they have been the happiest . . . That I have ever spent . . . Inside your heart there may be doubt That what I said is true . . . "There is no other one on earth . . . Who can compare with you" . . . But, darling, please believe me, as . . . I say those words again . . . For they are just as sacred now . . . As any promise then . . . And, oh, I want you every day . . . To love and hold and keep . . . Each morning we awake and rise . . . Each night we go to sleep . . . I would not trifle with your heart . . . My soul is too sincere . . . Myself and all my worldly goods . . . I offer you, my dear.

was of the wholesome type; she made friends easily and she was anxious to do what she could to further the work of the forces of the United States: the reason for her voluntary enlistment in the Waves.

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HER RECORD in the service is attested to by the sympathetic letters sent to the family on the occasion of the transfer of her body for Solemn Mass in Holy Rosary Church and burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

A letter to the family from the Chief of Naval Personnel for Women, after expressing sympathy, states: "May you find comfort in knowing of the expressions of regret made by her many friends who were privileged to know and work with her. You should be forever proud of the fine example your daughter set for the hundreds of young women serving their country and we shall always be grateful for her contribution to the Navy."

From Father David J. Kosky: "She was a devout Catholic and belonged to the Mary-Waves of which organization

she was Executive Vice President and a frequent Communicant."

From the Lt. Commander of the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland: "During the temporary absence of our Catholic Chaplain, I feel that I should write you concerning Irene." . . . "We respected her for the fine young lady she always was, and for her valuable and indispensable contribution by her Catholic action and outstanding example. She never failed her religious duties and from personal observation I know that she was a frequent Communicant. Her superiors have nothing but the highest praise for her performance of duty as a Wave and a member of the United States Navy." . . . "Your daughter Irene has passed away in the prime of her life but I am sure her life on this earth has assured her a place among God's chosen ones."

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FROM Patuxent Naval Air Station signed by five Lts. and an Ensign: "Irene was one of the finest Waves stationed at this Command. She obeyed instructions cheerfully and willingly, thereby aiding the morale of her shipmates. Her duties were carried out in a most satisfactory manner, and she was outstanding in her work as Master-at-Arms of the Wave Barracks. She will be greatly missed at this station."

Any interpretation to the contrary of the above is untrue and should be dismissed from the minds of the public as a falsification of character. St. Maria Goretti was placed on the lists of the Saints because she defended her virtue of Chastity at the price of her life. What think you of Irene M. Conole, W.A.V.E., United States Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland?

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