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Grinnell Herald

A NEWSPAPER FOR

SEVENTY-SEVENTH YEAR

GRINNELL, POWESHIEK COUNTY,

Lieut. Bob Cranny

Old - Register.

THE WHOLE FAMILY

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For Volunteer
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IOWA, THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1944

NO. 27

Is At Home Again

His Body Rests Amid Familiar Surroundings

Funeral Services Are Held This Morning At St. Mary's Church

Lieutenant "Bob" Cranny is at home again.

When Lieutenant Cranny started out on December 26 on the flight from which he never returned, Grinnell was sear and lifeless in the grasp of winter. When he returned it was beautiful with the bloom and freshness of June.

The shaded avenues where Bob walked as a boy, the blessing of the summer sunshine, the beauty and fragrance of flowers, the tender memories of dear ones and friends, welcomed him back to the home town where he was born and where he lived until he left it to enter the naval aviation service of his country.

Bob's body, found where his plane had crashed on Vancouver Island in the Pacific, was brought to Grinnell Tuesday night, escorted by Lieutenant (j. g.) John E. Kinsella. Funeral services were held this morning from St. Mary's church, in the presence of a capacity audience. Stores closed for the services and the Kiwanis club, of which T. T. Cranny, Bob's father, is the secretary, and the Focht-Tennant post of the American Legion attended in a body.

A Moving Address

The address by Rev. Father P. D. Moore was informal, touched with tender memories and filled with impulses of patriotism. If he had a text, it might be considered as being found in the words of a dying soldier to his mother, in which he said, "Do not think of me as dead, but rather think of me as entering on a newer and a larger life."

Father Moore referred movingly to the double tragedy which has come to the Cranny family in the death of Bob and the loss of Lieutenant Robert Stanley Felt, husband of their daughter, Marvene, recently reported as killed in action in the Pacific while serving in the aviation branch of the Navy, the same service to which Bob belonged.

The Tragedy of War

He emphasized the tragedy of war. This, he said, is one isolated case of hundreds and thousands which are happening all over the country, each individual one bringing its burden of sorrow to some family.

Bob Cranny died a hero, just as much as if he had been on a bombing mission over an enemy objective and just as truly he died for his country.

He was a man, and more than that, he was a man of God. The chaplain from the point where he was stationed had written Father Moore of Bob's sincere religion and his faithful observance of the rites of his church.

The deep sympathy and the prayers of many friends, said Father Moore, are with the parents and sister in their bereavement and at least it is a comfort to have their long uncertainty relieved and to have Bob at home again among those who love him.

Requiem High Mass

The funeral services were in accordance with the immemorial tradition of the Catholic church, in which Bob was reared and spent his short life. The requiem high mass was said by Father Moore and the impressive music by T. Francis Burke was sung by the children's choir of St. Mary's church under the direction of Mrs. J. S. McCuniff. At the close of the service Professor D. E. Peck sang "Ave Maria" by Rosewig.

Pallbearers were David Bader, John Craig, Harlan Cratty, Will Cavanaugh, John Hotchkin, and Charles P. Vogel.

Legion In Charge

Services in Calvary cemetery were under the direction of the memorial committee of the American Legion and were in charge of C. H. Dimit. Color bearers were Ralph Little, wearer of the Purple Heart for wounds received in the last war, and Lee

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