



JOSEPH NIEBERT CARPENTER, III

1939

Joseph Carpenter volunteered for service in the Air Force, the day after Pearl Harbor. Leaving Yale, he was inducted as an air cadet in January, 1942. The following November, he received his bombardier wings. He was then selected for a five months' course in navigation, upon his graduation from which in August, 1943, he was appointed instructor at the Air Base at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

After serving two months as instructor, Carpenter volunteered for immediate combat service in the Pacific. At his request, he was transferred to the Greenville Air Base, in South Carolina. There he was completing his training as navigator-bombardier of a B-25, and expecting shortly to go overseas on combat duty. On February 25, 1944, in the course of a routine flight, his plane crashed. Carpenter and all the other members of the crew but one were killed.

In 1934, only eight years before he became an officer in the Air Force, Carpenter had entered St. Paul's as a boy of twelve, one of the smallest and youngest members of his Form. Taking part in athletics despite his lack of weight, he played football and hockey on club teams. His attitude toward life was sportsmanlike. His good-nature and his courage won him liking and respect at the School, and, in the Air Corps, his work and his character were warmly commended by his superior officers. His brief life, ended at twenty-two, was one of rapid progress.