



EDWARD CHASE DONALDSON

1944

In his Sixth Form year, Chase Donaldson won his S.P.S. in football, was a greatly respected Supervisor, the Chairman of the Chest Committee and an editor of the *Horae*. His article on "Europe's Future and the U. S.," which set forth the importance of America's understanding the revolutionary aspect of the war, was awarded the Williamson Medal. He graduated in January, *cum laude*, with honors in English.

At Harvard, Donaldson qualified for the foreign language section of A.S.T.P., but when the program was abandoned, he was inducted into the Infantry. After training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, he went overseas in November with the 69th Division. From England, he was sent to France as a replacement for the 84th Division, which he joined in Belgium, January 10. The First Army, of which the 84th Division was then a part, having blunted the spearhead of von Rundstedt's forces in the "Bulge," was then engaged in driving them back into Germany. During this fighting, Donaldson, by this time nineteen, was promoted from Private to Sergeant. In late February, the 84th Division having returned to the Ninth Army, Donaldson took part in the drive from northeast of Geilenkirchen, across the Roer River to the Rhine. Then his division was drawn back to Krefeld, which it had captured on its way, and given a rest. On March 26, he wrote, ". . . nothing new as yet. Keep your eye out for us when the break-through comes. We'll probably be up there at the head of it." Eleven days later the division was near Eisbergen, and there, on April 8, 1945, Donaldson, while leading his squad in an attack on an enemy machine-gun position, was killed in action.