

Murphy and O'Brien

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"The death of Lieut.-Commander Murphy, husband of Eleanor O'Connor Murphy, was deeply felt by all who knew him," stated Francis J. Dillon, principal of the Patrick T. Campbell School. "Both Lieut.-Commander Murphy and Mrs. Murphy were formerly popular members of the Patrick T. Campbell School faculty."

"Lieutenant-Commander Murphy was born in Boston 33 years ago, the son of the late Thomas H. Murphy, of the Boston Police Department, and Elizabeth M. Murphy of 2005 Dorchester Avenue," continued Mr. Dillon. "He was graduated from Boston College, '32, and Boston College Graduate School, '33, and was a member of the Catholic Alumni Sodality of Boston. Prior to his appointment to the teaching staff of the Boston School Department he taught at Boston College High School. In January, 1938, he was appointed to the Patrick T. Campbell School, where his qualities of sincerity, friendliness, and genial good nature endeared him to his fellow workers."

"In 1937 he joined the Naval Reserve and entered active service prior to Pearl Harbor. In July, 1941, he was married to Eleanor V. O'Connor of Mattapan. After attending the Naval School at Washington, he served a year at the Boston Navy Yard and was later transferred to the Naval Receiving Station at Great Diamond Island, off Portland. He served as supply officer from August, 1942, until October, 1943, when he was transferred to the South Pacific."

Commanded Supply Depot

"In October, 1943, Commander Murphy was ordered to the 12th Naval District, San Francisco, California, to await transportation to an advanced naval base in the Pacific as Supply Officer-in-Charge of a naval supply depot. He left the country December 1, 1943, and served until May 24, 1944, in that capacity. On April 15, 1944, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Commander and shortly after that was assigned to an advance naval base, north of New Guinea. Fifteen days later he was taken ill and flown to a fleet hospital where he died after seven days' illness."

"The Chaplain at the Base Hospital writes:

"He (Lieutenant-Commander Murphy) was buried from our new chapel, which was dedicated on the previous Sunday, and his funeral, with full military honors, was the first funeral held from this chapel. I sang the funeral Mass for him and he now lies buried in our beautiful cemetery, which overlooks the broad expanse of the blue Pacific."

Captain John J. O'Brien