

Posthumous Letters & Awards *For* *Captain Keith Van Neste* *1945*

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Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society & Van Neste family

April 27, 1945 Telegram

CLASS OF SERVICE	WESTERN UNION	SYMBOLS
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.	A. N. WILLIAMS PRESIDENT	DL = Day Letter NL = Night Letter LC = Deferred Cable NLT = Cable Night Letter Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

29 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC 27 1945
MRS MARGARET E VANNESTE=
F 745 MARSHALL ST LNCN=

APR 27 1945
23652

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS
DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR HUSBAND CAPT VANNESTE KEITH DIED OF
WOUNDS IN GERMANY 13 APR 45 CONFIRMATION LETTER FOLLOWS=
J A ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

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Mailed

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THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society & Van Neste family, 10275-11

April 25, 1945 Letter from Colonel Lovless, 23rd Infantry

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY THIRD INFANTRY

A.P.O. #2, U. S. Army,

25 April 1945.

Mrs. Margaret E. Van Neste,
745 Marshall Street,
Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dear Mrs. Van Neste,

Your husband, Captain Keith G. Van Neste, 0405360, died of wounds received as a result of enemy action at Schkopau, Germany on 13 April 1945. He was wounded by enemy artillery shell fragments while on a mission to a battalion command post. He was immediately evacuated through medical channels to the division collecting station, where he died. You may rest assured that everything medically possible was done for him prior to his death. He has been buried in a U. S. Army Cemetery. His burial services were conducted by a Protestant Chaplain.

Keith had been a member of the 23d Infantry since 1 July 1941 and had become known throughout the regiment as a fearless, conscientious and very thorough officer. He was well liked and looked upon by all the officers, including myself, as a friend. The enlisted men with whom he worked looked toward him for guidance and trusted implicitly in his judgement.

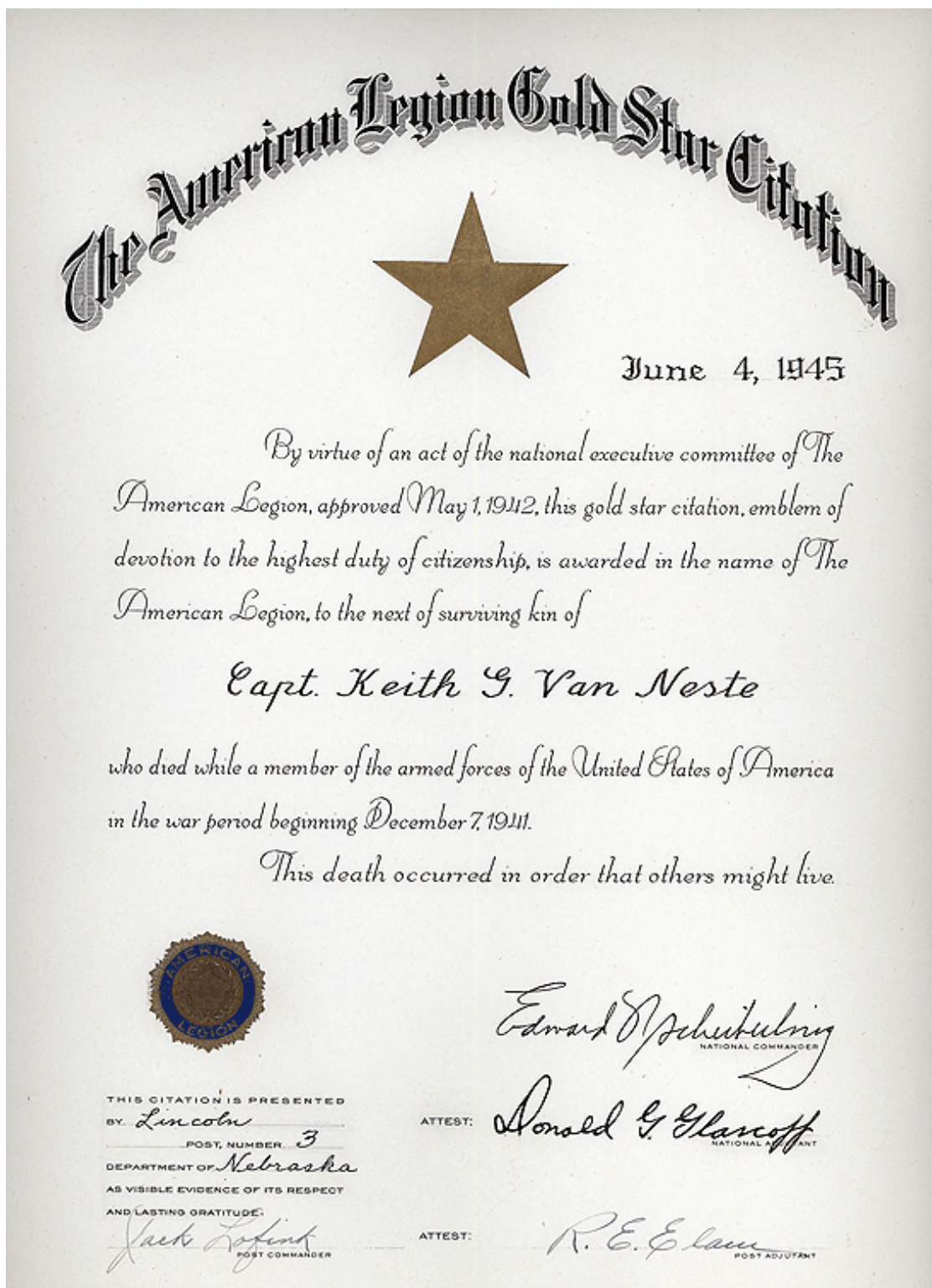
You have the deepest sympathy of the officers and enlisted men of this regiment in your bereavement. We only hope to live up to the standard he has set by his exemplary action in combat.

Sincerely,

J. B. Lovless
J. B. LOVLESS,
Colonel, 23d Infantry,
Commanding.

Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society & Van Neste family, 10275-14

June 4, 1945 American Legion Gold Star Citation



Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society & Van Neste family, 10275-19-1

July 20, 1945 Letter from Civilian Defense Chairman

OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE
Custer County
Broken Bow, Nebraska.

July 20, 1945.

Mrs. Keith Van Neste,
Anselmo, Nebraska.

Dear Mrs. Van Neste:

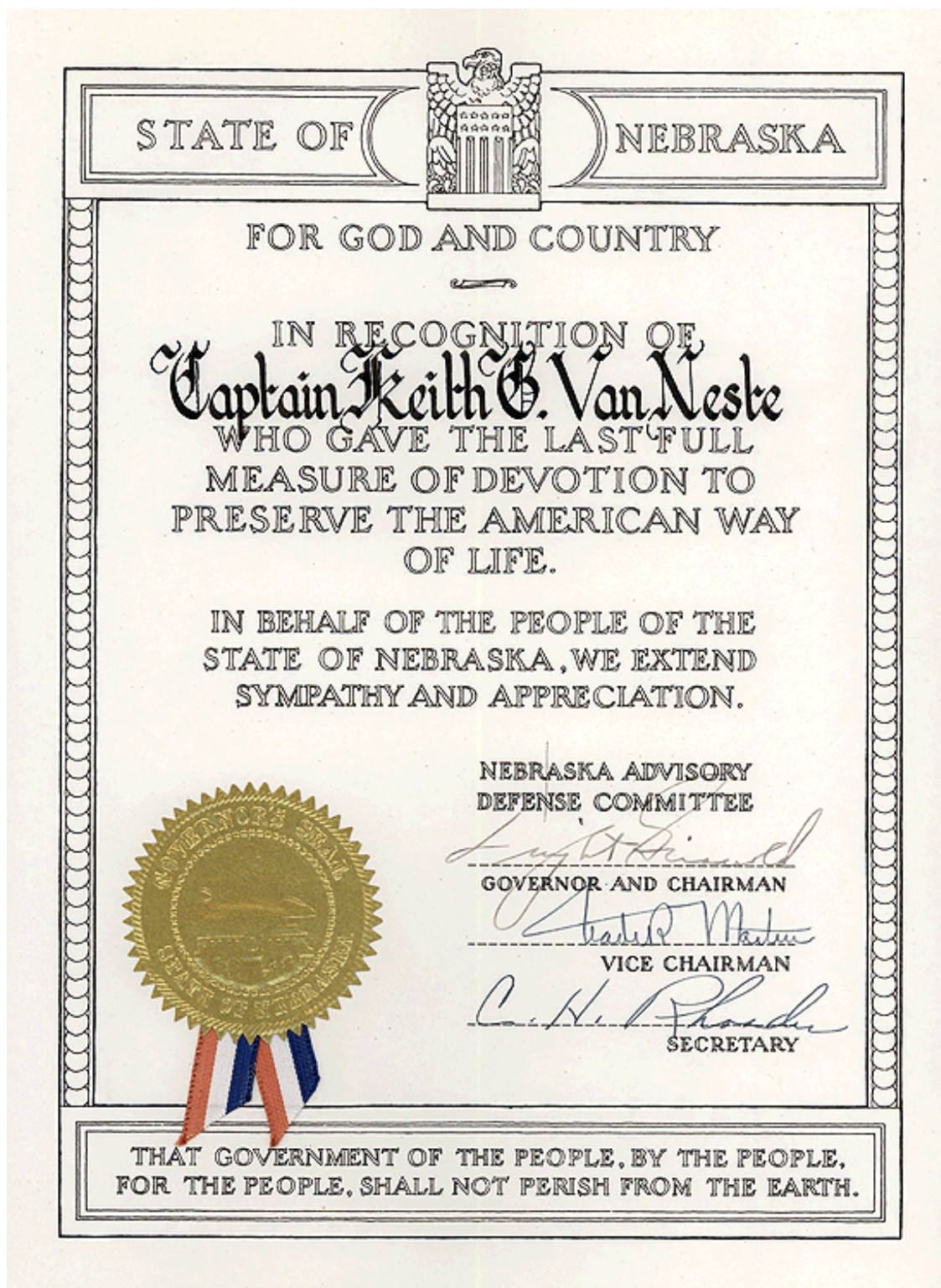
It is with deep sympathy that I present to you, the wife of Captain Keith G. Van Neste, this document of recognition which designates the supreme sacrifice made by Captain Van Neste. While this document does not bring comfort to you in this sad hour, it is a memento to the heroes of our Country and we are proud that this instrument can be presented.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald A. Thurman
Gerald A. Thurman,
Chairman of Civilian Defense
Custer County, Nebraska.

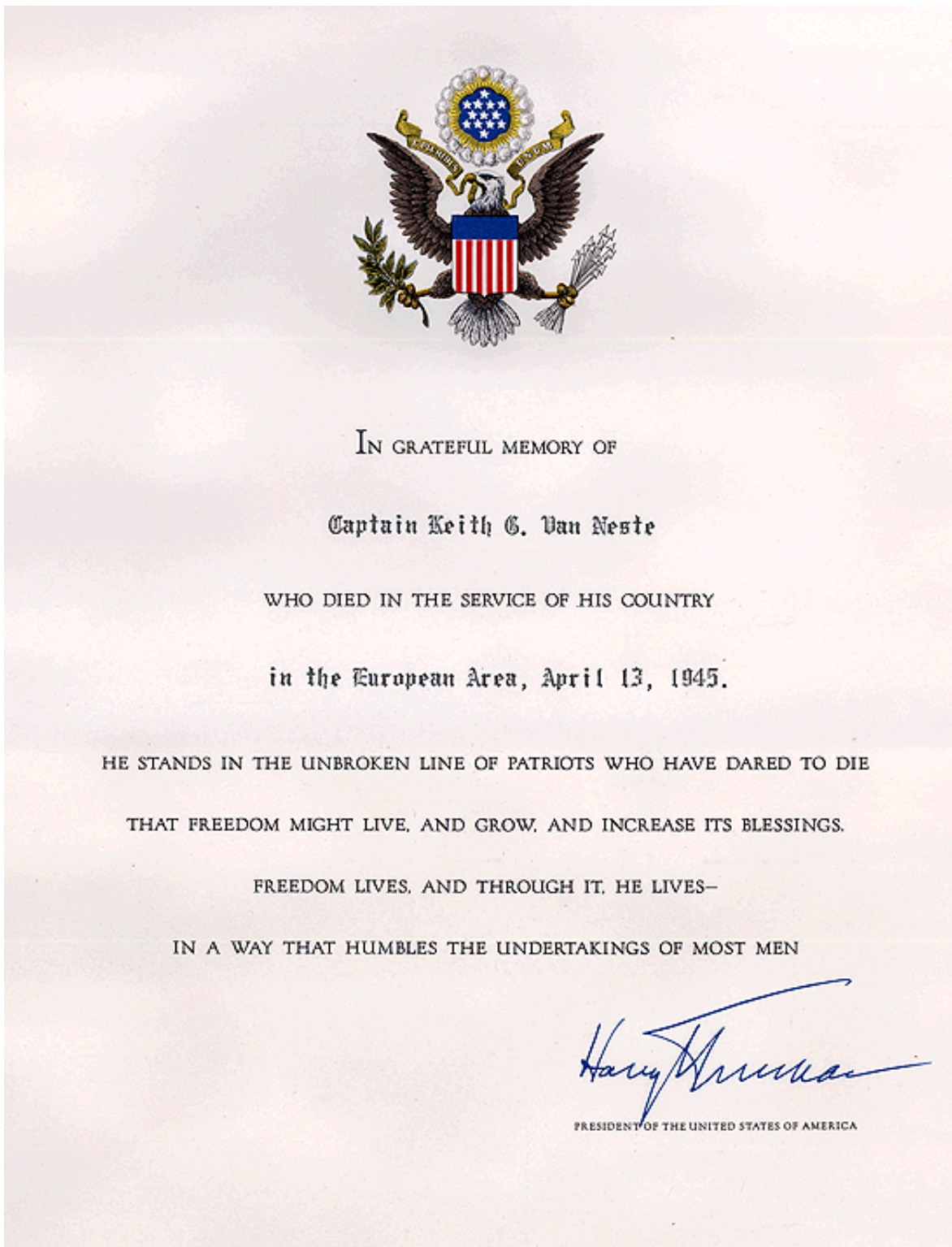
Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society & Van Neste family, 10275-16

Governor's Seal, State of Nebraska, In Recognition



Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society & Van Neste family, 10275-17

“In Grateful Memory” from President Harry S. Truman



Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society & Van Neste family, 10275-21

Transcript April 27, 1945 Telegram

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**WESTERN
UNION**

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deffered Cable
NLG = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

CA35 29 GOVT = WUX WASHINGTON DC 27 1034a

MRS MARGARET E VAN NESTE =
745 MARSHALL ST LNCN =

APR 27 AM 19 48

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR HUSBAND CAPT VAN NESTE KEIGH G DIED OF WOUNDS IN GERMANY 13 APR 45 CONFMING LETTER FOLLOWS =

J A ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Transcript April 25, 1945 Letter from Colonel Lovless, 23rd Infantry

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A.P.O. (?), U. S. Army,

25 April 1945.

Mrs. Margaret E. Van Neste,
745 Marshall Street,
Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dear Mrs. Van Neste,

Your husband, Captain Keith g. Van Neste, 0405360, died of wounds received as a result of enemy action at Schkopau, Germany on 13 April 1945. He was wounded by enemy artillery shell fragments while on a mission to a battalion command post. He was immediately evacuated through medical channels to the division collecting station, where he died. You may rest assured that everything medically possible was done for him prior to his death. He has been buried in a U.S. Army Cemetery. His burial services were conducted by a Protestant Chaplain.

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You have the deepest sympathy of the officers and enlisted men of this regiment in your bereavement. We only hope to live up to the standard he has set by his exemplary action in combat.

Sincerely,

J. B. Lovless

J. B. LOVLESS,
Colonel, 23d Infantry,
Commanding.

Transcript June 4, 1945 American Legion Gold Star Citation

The American Legion Gold Star Citation

June 4, 1945

By virtue of an act of the national executive committee of The American Legion, approved May 1, 1942, this gold star citation, emblem of devotion to the highest duty of citizenship, is awarded in the name of The American Legion, to the next of surviving kin of

Capt. Keith G. Van Neste

who died while a member of the armed forces of the United States of America in the war period beginning December 7, 1941.

This death occurred in order that others might live.

(American legion emblem)

THIS CITATION IS PRESENTED BY Lincoln
POST, NUMBER 3 DEPARTMENT OF
Nebraska AS VISIBLE EVIDENCE OF ITS
RESPECT AND LASTING GRATITUDE.

Jack Lofink
POST COMMANDER

Edward N Scheiberling
NATIONAL COMMANDER

ATTEST: Donald G. Glascoff
NATIONAL APPLICANT

ATTEST: R. E. Elain (?)
POST ADJUTANT

Transcript July 20, 1945 Letter from Civilian Defense Chairman

OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE
Custer County
Broken Bow, Nebraska.

July 20, 1945.

Mrs. Keith Van Neste,
Anselmo, Nebraska.

Dear Mrs. Van Neste:

It is with deep sympathy that I present to you, the wife of Captain Keith G. Van neste, this document of recognition which designates the supreme sacrifice made by Captain Van Neste. While this document does not bring comfort to you in this sad hour, it is a memento to the heroes of our Country and we are proud that this instrument can be presented.

Sincerely,

Gerald A. Thurman

Gerald A. Thurman,
Chairman of Civilian Defense
Custer County, Nebraska.

Transcript Governor's Seal, State of Nebraska, In Recognition

STATE OF NEBRASKA
(eagle symbol)

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

IN RECOGNITION OF

Captain Keith G. Van Neste

WHO GAVE THE LAST FULL
MEASURE OF DEVOTION TO
PRESERVE THE AMERICAN WAY
OF LIFE.

IN BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE
STATE OF NEBRASKA, WE EXTEND
SYMPATHY AND APPRECIATION.

(Gold seal)
GOVERNOR'S SEAL
STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA ADVISORY
DEFENSE COMMITTEE

Dwight Griswold
GOVERNOR AND CHAIRMAN

(?) Martin
VICE CHAIRMAN

C. H. Rhoades
SECRETARY

THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE,
FOR THE PEOPLE, SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH.

Transcript “In Grateful Memory” from President Harry S. Truman

(U.S. seal with eagle holding arrow and bough)

IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF

Captain Keith G. Van Neste

WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY

In the European Area, April 13, 1945.

HE STANDS IN THE UNBROKEN LINE OF PATRIOTS WHO HAVE DARED TO DIE

THAT FREEDOM MIGHT LIVE, AND GROW, AND INCREASE ITS BLESSINGS.

FREEDOM LIVES, AND THROUGH IT, HE LIVES –

IN A WAY THAT HUMBLER THE UNDERTAKINGS OF MOST MEN

Harry Truman

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA