

HEADQUARTERS, 179th INFANTRY  
A.P.O. 45, NEW YORK, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN

3 May 1945  
re: John B. Hancock  
34784565

Mrs. Edna P. Hancock  
Auburndale, Fla.

Dear Mrs. Hancock,

I was John's Chaplain. His loss is felt greatly here, and I know how much more difficult it must be for you at home. I do wish to express my concern for you and John's loved ones, and assure you that you are in my thoughts and prayers at this time.

John was given a military funeral and was buried by a Chaplain of his faith in a beautiful American Cemetery.

The men of the company join me in expressing my sympathy. You have no doubt been sustained by the strength of your family, friends, and the love of God. With that love we can find new courage, new hope, and a challenge to continue in God's grace in spite of this tragedy.

Know that my heartfelt sympathy and prayers are with you, and may you ever be conscious of God's love and understanding.

Very sincerely,

*Kenneth E. Metcalf*  
KENNETH E. METCALF  
Chaplain