

"Malmedy Massacre"

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NEW YORK

13366

GRADUATING CLASS QUESTIONNAIRE

(Answer each question as completely as possible, giving additional information where necessary).

NAME BRICE WILLIAM B DATE OF BIRTH 1919
Last Name First Name Middle Initial

PARENTS' NAME AND ADDRESS MRS. E. D. BRICE
(Father's rank if in (So sure to indicate if both are living)
service, civic or military).
201 EAST WASHINGTON ST.
Street Address
WINNSBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA
City and State

PLACE OF BIRTH WINNSBORO, S. C.
ADDRESS WHEN APPOINTED 201 EAST WASHINGTON ST, WINNSBORO, S. C.
APPOINTED BY REP. J. P. RICHARDS FROM FIFTH, S. C.
(Give name of Senator or Representative; unit, if from National Guard or Regular Army). State and District

HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED MOUNT ZION INSTITUTE
Name of School
WINNSBORO, S. C. FROM 19 25 TO 19 36
City and State

PREP SCHOOL ATTENDED SULLIVAN SCHOOL
Name of School (including Army Provs)
WASHINGTON, D. C. FROM 19 39 TO 19 39
City and State

COLLEGE ATTENDED (Graduated?) ERSKINE COLLEGE
Name of College
NO FROM 19 36 TO 19 38

PREVIOUS MILITARY SERVICE C.M.T.C., ONE MONTH
(Regular Army, National Guard, ROTC, Navy, etc. Give rank and organization, and length of service).

ACADEMIC STANDING: 4th Cl. 133 3rd Cl. 268 2nd Cl. 301 1st Cl. 350
(Approximate)

ACADEMIC PRIZES WON _____

MILITARY RATING AS CADET: 3rd Class PRIVATE
2nd Class CORPORAL
1st Class CAPTAIN

(Please turn to next page)

13766

VITAL STATISTICS QUESTIONNAIRE

- 0 -

The United States Military Academy desires the following information for the personal file maintained at West Point for each graduate. Please answer as many questions as possible and return this questionnaire promptly in the inclosed envelope (no postage is required if mailed in the United States or in any Army Post Office overseas).

1. Name in full Brice William Boyce
(Last name) (First name) (Middle name)

2. Title 1st Lt.

3. Residence address

4. Business address

5. Permanent address

6. Please furnish names and addresses of at least two people who will know your address at all times.
.....
.....

7. Your birthplace Winnsboro, County of Fairfield, State of S.C., Date August 14, 1919

8. Appointed to U. S. M. A. from State S.C., District 5, By Rep. J.P. Richards

9. Parents: Names in full (give full maiden name of mother), when and where born and items of general interest regarding parents.

Father Eugene Douglas Brice, Present address dead

Birthplace Woodward, S.C., Date of birth July 26, 1868

Mother Laura Jamison Brice, Present address Winnsboro, S.C.

Birthplace Chester, S.C., Date of birth December 18, 1883

Items of interest concerning parents

10. Are you married or single?

Maiden name in full of first wife

Place of marriage, Date

Maiden name in full of second wife (if married twice)

Place of marriage, Date

If wife is deceased, give date of death, (month, day, year, place)

11. Children:

	FULL NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS	DATE OF DEATH
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

12. Children and relatives who have attended U. S. M. A.

	FULL NAME	RELATIONSHIP	YEARS AT U.S.M.A.	REMARKS
1.				
2.				
3.				

13. Where did you attend Grammar School? Town Winnsboro, State S.C.

14. Where did you attend High School? Town Winnsboro, State S.C.

15. Where did you attend Preparatory School? Town, State

16. Connections with other colleges or universities, inclusive years and degrees
Erskine College, Due West, S.C. 1936 - 1938

17. Activities at U. S. M. A.

- (a) Academic Honors: Pistol Marksman
(b) Athletics Boxing (4) Mule Rider (1)
(c) Miscellaneous honors or activities: Captain (1) Corporal (2) Sergeant (1) Fishing Club (1)

18. Positions you have occupied since resigning or retiring:

(a)	YEAR	OCCUPATION OR POSITION	NAME OF COMPANY
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			

(b) Present status. Give full details and information concerning the firm with which you are now connected; your position therein and the particulars of your job so far as possible.

(c) Civil, social or business honors

19. Have you written any books or articles? Give titles, publishers and dates of publication

20. Have you held any public offices? Enumerate with dates

21. Any miscellaneous information concerning yourself that should be in our files:

Killed in the Battle of the Bulge in Germany
on December 16, 1944.
Buried in the United States Military Cemetery,
Plot EE, Row 1, Grave 2, Neuville-en-Condraz,
Belgium.

22. Will you be able to forward your photograph for our files? Yes

23. Date of completing this questionnaire March 5, 1951

24. This information supplied by Mrs. F. D. Brice

PLEASE RETURN PROMPTLY IN THE INCLOSED ENVELOPE.

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on his way! He had a brilliant start and the military career he had chosen was a success. Everything that life held for him was within his grasp and he had come through the war unscathed.

At 8:30 on the 28th of July, 1945, "Old John Feather Merchant" breezed easily down the runway and wafted into the sky and the thickening gray clouds and fog that swallowed her up. It was "Nig's" last flight.

One of the many tributes to the memory of Bill Smith, was a letter from Lieutenant General Ira C. Eaker, who wrote in part:

"With deepest regret I have learned of the death of Lieutenant Colonel William Franklin Smith, Jr. It has come to my attention that Colonel Smith who graduated from the United States Military Academy, had an enviable reputation in his command. Throughout his training at George Field, he followed a course which later helped him attain his ambition to become an outstanding airman. A strong, resourceful leader, possessing a fine spirit of cooperation and friendliness toward his comrades, he was a respected and honored officer who is greatly missed by those who knew him well. For his Country, he gave his utmost."

Officers and men under Bill Smith's command in combat have said that he knew most of them by their first names and was the only commander they knew of who could send them out of a briefing for a mission,—with a smile. His meteoric rise in his profession was proof of his belief in himself as well as his outstanding ability, and his sudden and tragic passing leaves a gap that will long be remembered in the ranks of the Black, Gold and Gray.

Funeral services with full Military honors were held on August 2, 1945 at Birmingham, Alabama. As taps sounded in the stillness of the evening Bill was laid to rest in the spot he had so many times said was the most beautiful on earth,—Elmwood Cemetery. Bill is survived by his wife, Mrs. Martha M. Smith of Watertown, Mass., his son William F. Smith III., his parents Mr. and Mrs. William F. Smith of Birmingham, Alabama, and his brother Robert B. Smith, Lt. Jg., U.S.N.R., now stationed in Japan.

—John J. Molloy.

William Boyce Brice

NO. 13366 CLASS OF JAN. 1943

Killed in Action, December 16, 1944, in Germany, aged 25 years.

THE story is soon told! William Boyce Brice, son of Eugene Douglas Brice and his wife, Laura J. Brice; born in Winnsboro, South Carolina, August 14, 1919; graduated from Mt. Zion Institute, June, 1936; spent two years at Erskine College; entered United States Military Academy and graduated in January, 1943; killed in action, Germany, December 16, 1944.

In high school he was most popular among both teachers and pupils, receiving the medal for Best All Round Boy in school; at West Point was a

member of Fishing Club, Boxing, and Pistol Marksman, attained the high rank of Cadet Captain, was on the Board of Governors, First Class Club and also held the honor of "Mule Rider". His friends among the Cadets—and they were legion—called him "Willie B.", and men give nicknames only to those they love. After graduation, he entered the Service of the United States as a Second Lieutenant, choosing the Infantry; training at Fort Benning, Georgia, he was promoted to First Lieutenant and stationed at Fort Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina, whence he was sent overseas in October, 1944; on December 16, 1944 in the Battle of the Bulge, he met a soldier's death in action.

Such is the all too brief story! It tells so little—is so cold and formal. Behind the facts, to those of us who knew and loved him, is the true reality—the fresh young life, the courage that knew no shadow of turning, the honor that never failed, the ability



that gave promise of so much "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friend". I who write these lines knew him "from his youth up" I was his Superintendent of Schools for eleven years, from his first grade through High School, in a small town. I know what I do speak. I never saw him do an ungenerous act or fail in that courtesy and courage that marks a gentleman, a gentleman born and a gentleman bred. William Boyce Brice came of good South Carolina ancestry. He fought, therefore, as a matter of course. He was "true to the instincts of his birth, and faithful to the teachings of his father". In "the short, sharp, agony of the Field", in a foreign land, he sealed his loyalty with his life.

—G. F. Patton.

John Metcalf Broderick

NO. 13907 CLASS OF JUNE 1943

Killed in Action, January 6, 1945, at Ancona, Italy, aged 25 years.

JOHAN M. BRODERICK was born November 16, 1919, in the City of Mandan, North Dakota. He attended the St. Joseph's Parochial School un-

til he entered the Mandan High School. After graduation he took one year of post graduate work. In the year of 1937, while attending High School, at the age of eighteen years, he enlisted in Battery "E", 185th Field Artillery, North Dakota National Guard, and attended its maneuvers that year. While at Camp, the officers of the National Guard suggested to him that he should try to get an appointment to West Point Military Academy, and it was at that time he decided to follow a military career.

Upon his graduation from High School he enrolled at the University of Minnesota, which he attended for one year. In the fall of the year he was appointed Third Alternate to the U.S. Naval Academy, but he had no desire to attend the Naval Academy, and in any event the principal candidate passed his examination and qualified, and nothing developed from that. While attending the University of Minnesota he investigated the possibilities of obtaining an appointment to attend the West Point Preparatory School at Fort Snelling and just before his first year of school work at the University closed, he received his appointment. He then came back to Mandan and in the month of July, 1940, he enlisted in the regular Army and was assigned to Company "B", 15th Infantry at Fort Lincoln, after several months at Fort Lincoln he was assigned to the West Point Preparatory school at Fort Snelling where he finished among the first eight candidates at the Preparatory School. In the spring of 1941, while he was attending the West Point Preparatory School, he received an appointment as First Alternate to West Point and, upon the failure of the Principal Candidate to qualify, at the request of the War Department he was honorably discharged from the Regular Army for the purpose of permitting him to accept the appointment to West Point and he entered West Point in July, 1940.

Although he graduated from West Point in June, 1943, as a Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery, he was permitted to go on and complete his training as a flyer in the U.S. Army Air Corps. John had a very special reason for wanting to complete his training as a pilot. His only brother, Captain William C. Broderick, (then a Lieutenant in the Air Corps) who had been First Pilot on a "Flying Fortress" had been shot down in the African Campaign, while on a mission over Tunis, and was taken prisoner by the Germans and at the time of John's graduation was a prisoner of war interned at Stalag Luft No. 3, at Sagan Silesia. John wanted to fly in the European Theatre so he could do his part in winning the war and at the same time help to liberate his brother.

After training at various Army Air Fields in California, he completed his flight training at Williams Field at Chandler, Arizona, and was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Air Corps in January, 1944. Shortly after receiving his commission in the Air Corps he was stricken with what he termed the "Valley Fever" which finally developed into pneumonia. After spending two months in the hospital he

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CFY10 43 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC JAN 12 518P

MRS LAURA J BRICE=

201 EAST WASHINGTON ST Winnsboro, S. C.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP
THAT YOUR SON FIRST LIEUTENANT WILLIAM B BRICE HAS B
REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION SINCE SIXTEEN DECEMBER
GERMANY IF FURTHER DETAILS OR OTHER INFORMATION ARE
YOU WILL BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED=

DUNLOP ACTING THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

IONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Mr. W. Boyce Brice
Erskine College
Due West, South Carolina

M.C.
W. W. Boyce Brice
WASHINGTON D.C. 20540
JAN 13 2-PM 1938

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—FREE
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