

PRIVATE JOHNNIE ZELDAM D.S.C. GRAND RAPIDS BOY - AND YOU



*Private John Zeldam
1065 Canfield Ave. S. W. Grand Rapids
decorated with Distinguished
Service Cross at Camp Custer for
heroism in action*

*"Painfully wounded himself, he dragged his
boyhood friend and comrade to a shell hole and
crawled two miles to the rear for assistance under
heavy shell fire"*

IT wasn't very long ago that you were praying for Victory. You wanted the boys to come home, you wanted to stop the slaughter, you wanted to conquer a brutal enemy. Back in those days Victory seemed cheap at any price. And now we've got it! And those of us who were left at home are going to get off dirt cheap! Kent County's total quota in the Fifth Liberty Loan—the Victory Loan—is only \$7,473,400.

Victory also was the aim of Private John Zeldam. He also thought it would be cheap at any price. We know Private John. We expect him back soon. His job is waiting for him.

Over there with the wonderful 126th John Zeldam was thinking of the folks back home and of his pal, William Wilmerink, and of victory. He went to school with William Wilmerink. They were good chums. John and William went into the fight together, fearless crusaders. Fate played its cards. William was left out there in No Man's Land with a jagged hole in his side and bleeding. Near him lay John, a part of his heel shot away, but still alert. John, who knew the price of victory, didn't hesitate.

Through the mist of machine gun bullets and scattering shrapnel that formed a veil of death over the battlefield John crawled to the side of his boyhood, hero chum. Although every move sent jerks of pain quivering through his hurt body, John came back across that road of hell and with him came William. It was a marvel that John was saved—a wonderful achievement of heroism that he brought back with him the limp, bleeding form of his fighting chum. William died. That's the price some of our finest paid—the highest price. John is wounded.

And you who also wanted victory can settle your share dirt cheap. Other men died, other men were maimed for the victory. John and William are but types. You've bought a few bonds. Now settle the job. Square your account! John Zeldam squared his, so did those other brave men who now sleep in the warm French soil. John Zeldam has his Distinguished Service Cross. Put the Victory Loan across! Carry on to the finish! Be sure you get your "V," the insignia of the Liberty Loan Volunteers. It's the Cross of Service to be given those who carry their full burden at home and finish the job.

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