

Gattshalls Hear From Plane Victims Family

Since Mr. and Mrs. Fred P. Gattshall erected the memorial on their land in memory of the 14 service men who lost their lives in the crash of the Army C-47 Transport, on July 18, 1946, they have had correspondence from members of the immediate families of several of the victims.

A few days ago they received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Davis of 419 Cedar St., Weldon, North Carolina, thanking them for their thoughtfulness. The Davis' son, First Lieutenant Wilfred O. Davis, 23, was killed in the plane crash just a few miles from Goodland, and James R. Daniels of Robersonville, North Carolina also perished.

Information given to the Gattshalls tells that Lieutenant Davis and Lieutenant Daniels struck up a friendship when they enlisted in the Air Force. Whenever Davis applied for a furlough, Daniels did too and the two men spent their furloughs together. They were assigned to the same group and were enroute to the Overseas Replacement Depot at Kearns, Utah for a foreign assignment. They had planned to meet at Washington, D. C. for their return trip to Utah, with Lieutenant Daniels arriving at the airport, but Lieutenant Davis' plane was delayed. Davis telephoned Daniels to urge him to go ahead and proceed on his planned schedule, and he, Davis, would board a later plane. But Daniels refused, and the two men boarded the Army C-47 Transport which crashed near Goodland. The next day they were listed by the War Department as being among the plane's ten dead passengers.

Lieutenant Davis was the descendant of a prominent family and the great grandson of Senator Benjamine Eason of Sessions, a signer of the bill of secession of the State of South Carolina. He also was the grandson of Ravanell C. Davis of Georgetown, editor of the Georgetown Times.

He was the only son in the Davis family and he had three sisters. He was a graduate of Clemson College, and at the time of his death he was wearing a Clemson college ring, which his parents would appreciate having returned to them if it is ever found, or if it has been found. He had a full and well planned life ahead of him, when death occurred.

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