

Chicago, Ill. July 8th, 1918

My dearest Dave:

All alone in the office so I am going to make the best of my chance and let everything drop and write to you dear. I cant begin to tell you sweetheart how much I have been thinking of you the last week. If there is any truth in the fact that when a person is speaking of someone or thinking of them their ears burn, I am afraid you would be thinking they were on fire by this time. Oh how anxiously I have been looking for a letter but none seems to come but I know dear that its not your fault and so I try to learn to be a little more patient because it is not going to help to make matters easier if I fret about it, but I cant help but wish and wish and pray too for a letter.

I came home Friday night and asked Mother where she had laid my camera because I wanted to have those pictures I told you about developed. She said she had not seen my camera and so it had not come along home with the other picnic baskets. I thought I had lost my kodak but thought I might as well try to find it so I sent Garfield out there

to look it up and you can imagine how tickled I was when he came home with it. There was nothing done to the camera as far as I can determine and the rain had not spoiled it, unless it did spoil the pictures. I hope not because I want to send some of them to you if they turn out. The little fellow that fell out of the tree is getting along O.K., so after all the excitement nothing serious was the result.

Wednesday is S.S. Board meeting and I suppose you will be there and take me home, want you dear? If that only could be possible once more what a happy girl I would be. You would be happy too, wouldn't you dear? But then someday it want be just if, but a fact, and that is what helps to make things easier now. Oh Dave when I think of what times we will have when you come home I feel like laughing and crying for joy both at the same time. It will be a wonderful time want it dear?

I suppose you wonder why I have been typing my last letters to you, but to tell the truth it is because I can say so much more to you and save weight for something else on so much less space that since I have so very much to tell you the more I can say in less space the better. What do you say dear? You dont mind do you?

Next Saturday I am going out to Desplaines once more We are hoping for splendid meetings and know we are going to have them. The Swed. people have asked all the S.S. to donate their service flags to hang in the tabernacle during camp meeting time and so dear tho you cant be there in person you will be represented and we know you will be there in spirit. We are mighty proud of our flag. Last night we had a formal memorial service for George Gustafson and the church was packed.

I will have to close now dear, as it is time for the other girl to come back. Will write more to you in a day or two.

All my love and trust and prayers are for you dear for a heart that aches and overflows for just you.

With love, your Girlie,

*Grace*

SW5'KS

G. Snogren,  
1000 N. Lockwood Ave.  
Chicago, Ill. U.S.A.




Deceased  
8/10/18  
*R. L. Smith*  
Capt. M. C.

Corporal David L. Thor,  
~~23rd Company,~~  
~~6th Regiment,~~  
~~U. S. Marine Corps,~~  
American Expeditionary Force

DECEASED verified by  
STATISTICAL DIVISION H. A. E. F.

# Condolence





The thought  
that God  
is good,  
and is the  
only power,  
Will bring  
assurance to  
the darkest  
hour.

K. M.

*Olivier Benson.*

181-3

The J. Raymond Howe Co.  
Chicago

France,  
October 13, 1918.

My dear Grace

Your letter of August 28<sup>th</sup> received a few days ago while in the reserve line at the front. Next day we moved in to attack and so you see, this is my first chance to answer the letter from the sweetheart of the best friend I ever knew. That is what Dave and Jim were to me, my best chums, my counsels when in trouble.

Oh, I know how you miss Dave and how you long to have him back again. His love for you was so tender, so beautiful. He told me every day about you and planned those happy days which were never to be his on this earth. But some day those happy days will come and then happiness will reign.



"WITH THE COLORS"



Miss Grace Shogren,  
1000 N. Lockwood Ave.,  
Chicago, Ill.

Chicago June 20-1918

my dear Dove!

Just for once I have  
no work to do so am going  
to write to you, something I  
have been trying to get time  
to do ever since Monday but  
have not succeeded until  
now. I have been working  
over time and then had  
errands and practicing to  
do so that I have not  
been able to find time before  
but dear you will have  
to excuse me this <sup>time as it was</sup> not  
because I did not care but  
because I could not find  
the time. Will you dear? I  
won't let it go from Monday  
to Thursday again if I can  
possibly help it.

We just heard the sad news  
about George the day before  
yesterday and we certainly felt  
as if we all wanted to get that  
Kaiser for taking one of our boys.  
He is the second boy from all  
of the Swad <sup>76</sup> churches in the 1<sup>st</sup> Co.  
District to be killed or wounded, the  
other boy being the janitor's son  
from Evanston - who was also  
killed. Wordscott tell you how  
I felt to be obliged to put one  
Gold Star on our flag. It hurt  
dear and yet we know he died  
for a good cause and we  
feel proud that he gave his  
all, even if it is hard for us  
who are left.

Tonight Elizabeth Gordon  
will marry her soldier  
boy. I expect to be there  
and sing in the choir.  
I will tell you the details  
later. Saturday the girls are

going to have<sup>2</sup> supper in Garfield  
Park and be there in the  
afternoon. We are expecting  
a fairly good time at any  
rate. Won't you come and  
take me home? Oh darling  
if only you could but  
~~there~~ they say everything  
comes to them that wait  
and I guess that is what  
we are learning dear  
to wait. Sometimes dear  
it seems as if I could  
not wait to see you  
any longer but must  
go to you but then I  
know you love and trust  
me and I do also and  
oh how much that helps

when it seems as if I  
could not stand the  
pain any longer. Dear  
how I hope and pray we  
wont be parted much  
longer but that we can  
soon be together again  
with no horrid war to  
separate us.

I will have to close  
now dear.

Fachs suit their regards.  
Your little girl sends  
all her love and trust  
and prayers from a  
heart just aching for  
you. Your Grace

Sewell's.

E. Shogren,  
1000 N. Lockwood Ave.,  
Chicago, Ill. U.S.A.



DIRECTORY DIVISION  
M.P.E.S. A.E.F.



*Deceased*  
*7/26/17*  
*[Signature]*  
*Capt. M. C.*

DECEASED  
Verified by R. & F. Div.  
M.P.E.S. C.P.O. A.E.F.

Corporal David L. Thor,  
73rd Company,  
6th Regiment,  
U.S. Marine Corps,  
American Expeditionary Force,

# Comrades in Life and Death



## Memorial Service

*held in the*

**Austin Swedish M. E. Church**

Augusta Street and Menard Avenue  
Chicago

*Sunday Afternoon, July 28th, 1918*

*at three o'clock*

**DAVID LOYD THOR  
GUNNAR DAHL**

Killed in Action, June 10, 1918

## DAVID LOYD THOR

BORN IN CHICAGO, JANUARY 25, 1897

KILLED IN ACTION "SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE,"  
JUNE 10, 1918

AGED 21 YEARS, 4 MONTHS, 15 DAYS

Graduated from the Whittier Public School, Oak Park, 1912. For the last few years he was employed in the banking business of Lee, Higginson & Co.

Enlisted in the United States Marine Corps April 12, 1917, six days after war was declared on Germany. At the time of his enlistment he had charge of the spiritual work of the Epworth League of the Austin Swedish M. E. Church, also teaching a class of boys in the Sunday School, and a faithful member of the choir.

Words cannot express our sorrow,  
Language fails to tell our loss;  
Friend and brother, Christian soldier,  
Who can ever take your post?

## GUNNAR DAHL

BORN IN CHICAGO, AUGUST 22, 1898

KILLED IN ACTION "SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE,"  
JUNE 10, 1918

AGED 19 YEARS, 9 MONTHS, 18 DAYS

Educated in the schools of Oak Park and, after graduating with the 1916 class from the Oak Park High School, he entered upon a most promising business life with the Jones-Laughlin Steel Co. Upon the call of his country he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, April 12, 1917, six days after war was declared.

He was an active worker in all the branches of the Austin Swedish M. E. Church and a member of the choir.

You will hear, dearest friends, alas! not from me;  
I hunted the "Huns" thru green valley and crag,  
For stamped on my brain were your last words; to me,  
"Tho life be the forfeit, be true to your flag!"  
Those words nerved my arm when I struck the bold blow  
For my country! my flag! for glory! for thee!  
But now all is over; I'm done with earth's foe,  
For heaven's bright portals are opening to me.

## Program

- Taps*.....BUGLER FROM THE U. S. MARINE CORPS
- Memoir*.....REV. G. E. GORDON, PH. D.
- The Vacant Chair*.....EDWARD C. OAKES
- Prayer*.....DR. GORDON
- America* .....AUDIENCE
- Address*.....DR. F. A. LUNDBERG
- Should Your Stars in Your Service Flag Turn to Gold* .....MRS. ROY NELSON
- Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*.....CHOIR  
(Favorite Hymn of Gunnar Dahl)
- Extracts from Letters*.....DR. GORDON
- Am I a Soldier of the Cross?*.....CHOIR  
(Favorite Hymn of David L. Thor)
- Address*.....REV. C. J. NELSON
- Just Before the Battle, Mother*..MRS. J. SHOGREN AND CHOIR
- Address*.....AXEL NELSON
- Prayer* .....
- Star Spangled Banner*.....
- Benediction*.....DR. GORDON

Somewhere in France,  
February 7, 1918.

To the Sunday School Board of the Austin Swedish M.E.  
Church:

Dear members:

Gunnar and I have waited now, very near two months after Christmas in hopes that we would receive some word of greeting from the Sunday School. We have thought that after being members for so many years that it would only be fitting and proper that we should receive some word of greeting and encouragement from the Sunday School. Not even a word was sent from the Epworth League.

feeling of being forgotten. Don't you think we are right in feeling so?

We know it is hard for you people to realize the position a soldier is in, being amongst undesirable companions and a strange people, when we are used to Christian surroundings and real friends. A good word of cheer means more than words can express on paper.

With greetings to the Sunday School and for a blessed year we remain,

Brothers in the Service,

Gunnar Dahl,  
David L. Thor.

Private David L. Thor,  
73rd Company- 6th. Regiment,  
U. S. Marine Corps-A. E. F.

*Censored  
Henry S. Sunde  
proceed*



May He who gave His Life  
to do us Service  
Shine in your heart this year,  
where'er you are!

For brighter than this Yuletide's Christmas candle  
Shines o'er the world our Christmas Service Star!

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thor

Christmas  
1 9 1 8



With  
Sympathy

*May you find consolation  
in the assurance that your  
friends are thinking of you  
at this time.*

*Isabelle Rouan.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Peter Shogren*  
*announce the marriage of their*  
*daughter*

*Grace Esther*

*to*

*Mr. Joseph C. Thor*

*on Friday, December the sixteenth*  
*nineteen hundred and twenty-one*

*Chicago*

*At home*  
*after January the first*  
*955 N. Menard Ave.*

ESTABLISHED 1837  
ALL BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE  
ADDRESSED TO C. D. PEACOCK

TELEPHONE CENTRAL 65

# C. D. PEACOCK

INCORPORATED

STATE & ADAMS STS.

CHICAGO

JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, WATCHES  
PLATED WARE, CLOCKS, LEATHER GOODS, STATIONERY  
DIAMONDS, PEARLS AND OTHER PRECIOUS STONES

July 10th, 1920.

SOLD TO

J. Thor,  
624 N. Humphrey,  
Oak Park, Illinois.

ced

MERCHANDISE TO BE CREDITED ON CURRENT BILL MUST BE RETURNED BEFORE THE LAST OF THE MONTH

1 Diamond Ring

250 00

Rec'd Payment  
JUL 10 1920  
C. D. PEACOCK, Inc.,  
JP

Somewhere in France,  
May 27, 1918.

My dear brother Elmer:-

I have received three letters from you and have been wanting to write to you, but yesterday your letter came giving me your address and now will send you a few lines. They won't be many this time, but next time I promise to write more.

So you are a soldier or on the way of being one. Good for you. You can now see what I have been through. It is no fun let me tell you, but you can make it easy for yourself by doing you best and making the best of everything. Of you will find yourself stiff many mornings at first but that soon goes away. Well I hope you soon will be able to come across as I want to see you. Things are different over here though. A lot more so than in the states. You will find it a strange life at first and now at the first choose you companions. You will find so many different types of boys in such a camp., but you boys in the states have the Y.M.C.A. and other organizations to entertain you so you all ought to have a good time.

I wish you could have gone home before you left and I hope you can before you leave the states as I know mother wants to see you very much. It will hurt her if you have to go before seeing you. But still that is one of the sacrifices a mother must make in this war and it has been so in every war. It is the mothers that have to bear the most, at least so it seems to me.

We have been doing a lot of hiking these last two weeks. About 75 miles and in a very hot sun. You should have seen my face a couple of days ago, all red and the skin was coming off. We have these over the sea caps and there is no shade for the face at all so you can imagine what the sun will do. I enjoyed the hike very much as it gave us an opportunity to see some of France beside the ruined parts. I have become tired seeing that all the time.

Will close for this time hoping this letter finds you well and in good spirits. Good luck to you Elmer.

Love to you,

Dave

Corporal David L. Thor,  
73rd. Company, 6th. Regiment,  
United States Marine Corps,  
American Expeditionary Force.

*Received  
1/24/18*

*Last letter written  
by Dave to me before  
his death June 10-1918*

American Expeditionary Force,  
United States Marine Corps,  
1374. Company, 6th. Regiment,  
Corporal David J. Thor,

*David J. Thor*

*letter written  
before  
his death June 10-1918*

finds you well and in good spirits, Good luck to you Elmer,

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*Pat Elmer Thor  
Co H 355 Inf  
Am Exp Forces*

*Pat Elmer Thor  
Co H 355 Inf*

*via Ray*

*via Ray*

May 24, 1918.  
Somewhere in France.

Dear Brother Elmer:-

have received three letters from you and  
I hope you can make it easy for yourself by  
I hope you will find  
ing you best and making the best of everything.  
is no fun let me know how you are.  
one. Good for you. I hope you can make it easy for yourself by

OAK PARK POST NO. 15, THE AMERICAN LEGION

August 31, 1921.

Comrades of Oak Park Post:-

There are three important matters that I wish to call your attention to in this letter:

1. The next meeting of the Post will be held at 8:15 P.M. Tuesday, September 6th, at the Elks Club. The important business to come before the Post will be the election of five Delegates to the State Convention and the adoption of a new set of By-Laws. There will be some entertainment after the meeting. A large attendance is desired, in order that the Fall work may start out right.

2. A Service Record Data Sheet is enclosed. Please give it your careful attention and fill it out accurately, returning same as directed on the sheet. The Oak Park and River Forest Memorial Committee must have accurate data for the permanent War Record of the two villages and for the proper inscriptions on the Memorial. The job of collecting these records has been turned over to your Post, and the start must be made by obtaining the data from the members of the Post. After that, the data of the other service men in Oak Park may be more readily obtained. Therefore, fill the blank out now and return it at once.

3. The June meeting of the Post voted to raise funds to help in the reconstruction of a very small French village. After going into the matter carefully, your officers have decided to help the village of Mesnil en Arronaise, near Peronne. Several hundred dollars have already been subscribed by Legion members and others. Every Legion member should donate something, no matter how small, since it is apparent that we are in a poor position to ask outsiders to give until the Legion members themselves have contributed. I desire a donation from every member of the Post. Therefore, please send it at once to Myron Sutherland, Treasurer, 216 S. Cuyler Avenue. Your money will be carefully spent and a final report will show just where it goes. The standing of the Post, in the minds of the Oak Park people, will be materially improved by our action in helping the poor people in this little French village where the inhabitants have returned and found their homes totally destroyed.

EDWARD J. BLAIR

COMMANDING OFFICER.

OAK PARK POST #15 - THE AMERICAN LEGION

October 3, 1921.

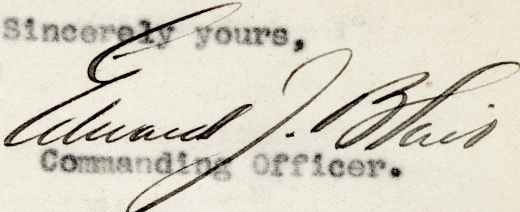
Mr. Chas. Thor,  
624 N. Humphrey Ave.,  
Oak Park, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

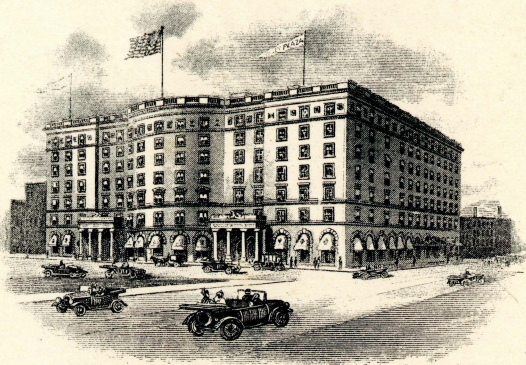
The War Memorial Committee, of Oak Park and River Forest, is making an effort to get accurate records of our service men and women. The more important records are naturally of those who died in the service of their Country, for it is primarily in their honor that the Memorial is to be erected. We find your name as the next of kin of David L. Thor. Will you, therefore, please be good enough to supply as much of the data as you possibly can that is called for by the record sheet next attached. We would appreciate your prompt action in this regard and the return of the data sheet by mail or in person to the War Record Bureau, Municipal Building, Oak Park, Illinois. If you are unable to fill out the sheet completely, please do not retain it too long for that reason, but fill in all the information that you can.

If there are any questions that you would like to ask, do not hesitate to drop the undersigned a line at 232 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park, Illinois.

Sincerely yours,

  
Commanding Officer.

EJB/o

EDWARD C. FOGG  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

# THE COPLEY-PLAZA

DARTMOUTH STREET - TRINITY PLACE - COPLEY SQUARE

BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS

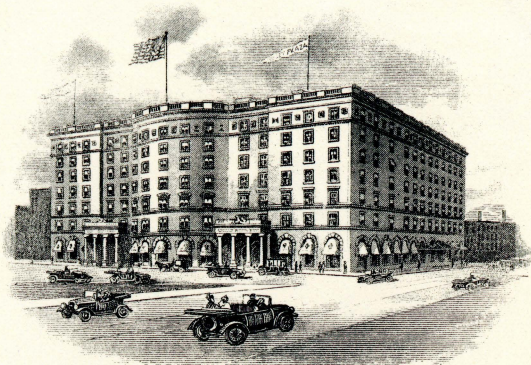
Somewhere in France,  
May 25, 1918.

Dear Brother Joe.,

This paper may seem strange to you, but don't worry I am still in France and expect to be here for some time to come. We have not given all we are going to give to the Germans as yet. We are not in the trenches now but don't know how soon we will be there again. We sure did have some time while we were in them let me tell you. The only thing was that there was not enough action. But still I am not anxious to get back. The place we are at now is way back of the lines and it sure is some place. We hiked over land. Father said in his letter that Roy Bodett with his company were going to hike to Wisconsin, but let me tell you he won't have a thing on our hike. We sure did have some hike and some of the nights that I laid down to sleep I did not know whether I had my legs on or not. But just the same I enjoyed it as it gave me a chance to see some of the good parts of France where the Germans had not been. I was tired seeing ruined towns as that was all there was to see, near the lines. Oh Joe if you could only see some of the sights I have seen you would not want to come over to France. Nothing bright. I remember one village we passed through where the civil population had come back an old woman told us of some of the atrocities the Germans had committed. Such as cutting off hands of little children etc. I saw a young girl that had had one of her hands cut off by the Germans. All that the papers have written about is true and the sooner we get to the Germans and punish them for what they have done the better. How thankful we should be that the Germans never came to our country.

Joe I miss those old talk we used to have after the lights were out and Oh how I wish we could have some more of them. I wonder how long it will be before we may again talk as we used to. I will have lots to tell you brother so prepare yourself for what is coming.

Yes Joe gossip has already reached me here about Ellen, but I have dropped it. The first I heard of it was the second time we were in the trenches Ellen wrote to Gunnar telling about it and of course Gunnar took Ellen's side as you might expect. It seemed very strange to me that such things should ever come to us when we had so much to contend with. I wrote to Grace then and she has answered me and between us we are going to drop it as Grace had nothing to do with it and again I know what Ellen is. I know that Grace worries about me and that she trusts me and I will not do any thing that will in any way hurt her, you may be sure of that. I love her too much for that. She means all to me Joe. I cannot ~~talk~~ begin to tell you what Grace means to me and what she has been to me during my part in this war. If I were to lose Grace I believe I would stay over here or



EDWARD C. FOGG  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

# THE COPLEY-PLAZA

DARTMOUTH STREET - TRINITY PLACE - COPLEY SQUARE

BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS

(2)

I would reenlist in the Marine Corps. You can show this to Grace if you want to and I will write her again to-night.

Grace in her last letter said you were in your glory Joe. Why don't you ever tell me about Francis, about your going out of church early to meet her and all that stuff? You sure do keep it all to yourself. Well I am with you so keep on going and do your worst.

I received a letter from Elmer to-day. He says he likes it so far, but poor boy he has not gone very far as yet. Wait till he gets to France and he will think differently.

Our service flag in Sunday School sure is going up. Well why not those older boys all should have been in it long long ago. It takes the young fellows to show up the older.

I have seen George Gustafson and we had a very nice talk. He looks fine and feels fine, but just the same as me, he is tired of this war and wants to come home.

Well Joe I have written you a young book so will close for this time. Love to you, mother, father and Walter.

Your loving brother,

*David*

Corporal David L. Thor,  
73rd. Company, 6th. Regiment,  
United States Marine Corps,  
American Expeditionary Force.