BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 17 OCTOBER 2026

105 PAGES

Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

COMPANION BOOK · KEVIN'S RECOLLECTIONS

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Kevin's Recollections

Kevin Engle · in his own words · more on Kevin's blog ↗

STEWARDS FOUNDATION 4
- How It Began 4
- Monday Flights to Chicago 6
- From Interim to Executive Director 7
- Caring for Those Who Serve 9
- Building Places to Worship 10
- Bringing the Work to Texas 11
- Side by Side with Cheryl 13
- Good Order and Good Fellowship 15
- Reaching Out 17
- An Honor from the State of Texas 18
- Looking Back 19

IN DAD'S OWN WORDS 21
- In Dad's Own Words 21
- The War Years 22
- Chicago, Courtship and the Call 26
- Manila and Binangonan 28
- Give Us This Mountain 38
- A Kansas Furlough 50
- Back to the Mountain 54
- Home to Abilene 60
- Dad and Kevin: A Chronology 76
- Sources 80

GROWING UP IN THE PHILIPPINES 82
- A Preacher Like Dad 82
- The Shoeshine Kit and the Kite 85
- The Bicycle Adventure (1968) 91
- Anchors Aweigh 93
- Jud Fry 94
- Best Actor of the Year 96
- The Gate at Subic 98
- Armed Forces Day 100

WHEN I ASKED CHERYL TO MARRY ME 100
- Companion Books 105

ENTRY ONE

Stewards Foundation

Wheaton, Illinois, and Addison, Texas · 1986–2010

UPDATED 11 OCTOBER 2026

How It Began

Kevin Engle's connection with Stewards Foundation began years before he ever worked there. By 1986 he had developed a strong interest in the organization and in the work it did for the assemblies, and he began asking questions of its trustees, officers and staff. He wanted to understand how a ministry that served so many local churches was run, and how it might serve them better.

That interest came to a turning point in the spring of 1994. Barry Mahloy, then president of the Foundation, approached Kevin and asked whether he would step in as interim Executive Director. Kevin said yes. His service is dated from April 25, 1994, and on April 26 the board wrote to assemblies and commended workers across the country to welcome him in his new role.

The Office on West Willow

The front door of the Stewards Foundation office at 218 West Willow in Wheaton, Illinois. The signs beside the door name Stewards Foundation, Sender Foundation and Workers Together.

Kevin Engle's collection

Monday Flights to Chicago

There was one complication: the Foundation's office was in Wheaton, Illinois, and Kevin was living in Texas. So for the first stretch of his service he commuted. Every Monday morning he boarded a Midway Airlines flight from Dallas to Chicago Midway, a Fokker 100 with about ninety seats, and every Friday he flew home again. During the week he rented a basement apartment near Wheaton College, a few minutes from the office on West Willow Avenue.

It was a demanding rhythm, but the work did not wait. On May 9, 1994, at his first board meeting, the trustees unanimously elected him corporate Secretary and placed his name on all of the Foundation's bank and investment accounts. That same day the board approved two church building loans, one for a fellowship in Stafford, Texas, and one for a chapel in Wichita, Kansas. Kevin also inherited a small, loyal Wheaton staff, including Audrey Ham, whom he later called "my able assistant and right arm." Within months he had added two more employees, and by August he could report to the trustees that the new help had significantly boosted the office's output.

A Midway Airlines Fokker 100, like the plane Kevin flew from Dallas to Chicago Midway every Monday morning and home again every Friday.
Photo: Wikimedia Commons

From Interim to Executive Director

On April 24, 1995, the board voted unanimously to make Kevin's appointment permanent. In August 1995 his wife, Cheryl, left Texas and moved north to join him, and the two of them rented a house in Wheaton. The Monday flights were over. From then on Kevin and Cheryl faced the work together, and Wheaton became home for the next several years.

Kevin would go on to serve as Executive Director for sixteen years, from 1994 to 2010, and as the Foundation's corporate Secretary for that entire time.

Executive Director

Kevin at his desk as Executive Director of Stewards Foundation.
Kevin Engle's collection

Caring for Those Who Serve

One of the Foundation's most important ministries under Kevin was its care for commended workers, the full-time servants of the Lord sent out from the assemblies. Beginning January 1, 1996, the Foundation's health program was reorganized as a system of healthcare gifts, and Kevin built and ran it. By 2003 the board's ten-year review could report that a great deal of help had been given for health care over the decade, while the Foundation's fund balance was maintained and its administrative costs had come down. For many missionaries and evangelists, those gifts meant that a hospital stay or a chronic illness did not have to mean the end of their work.

Kevin and Cheryl (center) with guests from Singapore in the Foundation office, in front of the bronze plaques from the Foundation's hospitals, among them Maynard Hospital and Bethesda Hospital. Stewards Foundation once owned six hospitals.
Kevin Engle's collection

Building Places to Worship

The Foundation's other great purpose was helping assemblies build and improve their meeting places through church loans. Kevin oversaw that loan program throughout his tenure, from the first approvals at his very first board meeting to the busy years near the end. Loans went to assemblies large and small, from Michigan and Maryland to North Carolina and Texas. The program grew steadily, and in 2009 alone thirteen loans were either made or in construction draw. Behind each one was a congregation with a new chapel, an expanded meeting hall, or a building finally made safe and sound.

Bringing the Work to Texas

At the fall 1997 board meeting in Oklahoma City, the full board voted to move the Foundation's office to the Dallas–Fort Worth area, and Kevin was given the authority to choose the location. He chose Addison. The Wheaton building on West Willow Avenue was sold in early 1998, well above its appraisal, and the moving van pulled away in April 1998. The Foundation received its Texas Certificate of Authority on May 28, 1998, and opened its new office on Midway Road in Addison, where it remained for the rest of Kevin's tenure. The board also set aside a reserve toward a future building of its own.

Cheryl was at the heart of that move. In December 1997 the board brought her on as Transition Manager, and she helped carry the office through the sale of the Wheaton building, the packing and the long move south, and the setting up of the new office in Addison. When the Wheaton staff chose not to relocate, it was Kevin and Cheryl who rebuilt the office in Texas from the ground up.

The New Office in Addison

Cheryl, Kevin and Lorie Watkins, the Foundation's accountant, in the Stewards Foundation office shortly after the move to Addison, Texas, spring 1998.
`Kevin Engle's collection`

Oklahoma City, 1997

Frank Brown of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, a member of the Stewards Foundation board, with Kevin and Cheryl in Oklahoma City in 1997. Frank went to be with the Lord several weeks after this picture was taken.

Kevin Engle's collection

Side by Side with Cheryl

No account of Kevin's years at Stewards Foundation is complete without Cheryl. She was not a footnote to the work; she was at the center of it. Board members and friends often told the Engles some version of the same thing: "Oh, I could never work with my spouse." Kevin and Cheryl did, together day and night, for more than twelve years.

Cheryl began by volunteering in the office in December 1996, giving her first year without pay. After that the board hired her, and she became the Foundation's office manager, later titled Administrative Manager. She was responsible for the overall operation of the office. She managed the board meetings and put together all of the board material, the agendas, enclosures and meeting books the trustees depended on. She also supervised the accountant, oversaw the databases, and served as the point person for the entire loan process. The board's compensation committee took note of her "substantially more responsibility."

For most of those years the Foundation ran with a remarkably small staff of two or three people. For about seven months in 2004 and 2005, while the accountant position was vacant, Kevin and Cheryl carried the whole office between the two of them.

Kevin cannot speak highly enough of what she did. Much of what the Foundation accomplished in those years, it accomplished because Cheryl was running the office.

Kevin and Cheryl

Kevin and Cheryl in the Stewards Foundation office. The Stewards Ministries sign behind them came from Wheaton, Illinois, where Stewards Foundation and Stewards Ministries once shared the office at 218 West Willow. When the Foundation moved to Texas, the sign came with it as a keepsake of those years.
`Kevin Engle's collection`

Good Order and Good Fellowship

As corporate Secretary, Kevin wrote and signed the minutes of every board and members' meeting, while Cheryl managed the meetings and prepared the board material. He also helped give the Foundation sound structure: written job descriptions, a compensation committee, a conflict of interest policy, a confidentiality agreement, and an investment policy. He brought the office into the computer age, setting up databases and writing procedures so the work could be done carefully and consistently.

He also made a point of taking the board to the assemblies. Meetings rotated around the country, to Orlando, Chicago, Warwick in Rhode Island, Oklahoma City, Philadelphia, Seattle, Charleston, Detroit, South San Francisco and Richmond, and the trustees were encouraged to spend meeting Sundays in fellowship with a local assembly.

Guests from Singapore

The same visit: the guests from Singapore with Cheryl and Kevin (right), under the 218 W. Willow and Stewards Ministries signs. Stewards Foundation and Stewards Ministries once shared the 218 West Willow office in Wheaton, Illinois. When the Foundation moved to Texas, these signs came with it as a keepsake of those years.
`Kevin Engle's collection`

Reaching Out

In September 2006 he and the Foundation's president, Ken Hampton, presented "The Next 5 Years," a plan to guide the Foundation's investments, healthcare gifts and growth through 2011. In 2007 he led a survey of the member assemblies that drew 260 responses, and in 2008 he began a DVD project telling the Foundation's story.

The gold Executive Director baton that trustee Jerry Keller presented to Kevin when he went off the board in 2006, in grateful thanks for Kevin's years of work with Stewards Foundation. The plate reads: Run Well, Heb. 12:1 · Finish the Course, II Tim. 4:7 · I Will Be With You, Matt. 28:20.

Kevin Engle's collection

An Honor from the State of Texas

On April 25, 2004, Kevin reached his tenth anniversary as Executive Director. A few weeks later, on May 11, 2004, the Texas House of Representatives adopted House Resolution No. 109, paying tribute to Kevin on the occasion of that anniversary and noting that the Foundation, under his leadership, had recently relocated to Texas.

The State of Texas House of Representatives

This Certifies that the Texas Flag herewith presented to

Kevin Engle

By

Representative Bryan Hughes

was flown at the Capitol of the Sovereign State of Texas

In Honor of His 10th Anniversary with Stewards Foundation

In witness thereof and pursuant to the authority vested in me, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office at Austin, Texas,

this the 25th day of April A.D., 2004.

State Representative

A second honor for the same anniversary: a Texas flag flown at the Capitol in Austin in honor of Kevin's tenth anniversary with Stewards Foundation, presented by Representative Bryan Hughes, April 25, 2004.

Kevin Engle's collection

Looking Back

Kevin's service at Stewards Foundation concluded in 2010, after sixteen years. Over that time he commuted, relocated twice, and moved an entire organization halfway across the country. For most of those years Cheryl was beside him, and together they kept a small office serving assemblies and missionaries from coast to coast.

Kevin's father, Ken Engle, in the Stewards Foundation office. The 218 W. Willow and Stewards Ministries signs behind him came with the Foundation from its old Wheaton office, which it once shared with Stewards Ministries.
`Kevin Engle's collection`

From Kevin's own recollections, written October 2026.

ENTRY TWO

In Dad's Own Words

Ken Engle, in his diaries, letters and articles · 1943–2009

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

In Dad's Own Words

Ken Engle wrote nearly every day of his adult life: diaries, letters to the churches that prayed for him, prayer letters, articles about the radio work. This chapter gathers what he said, in his own words, from the war years to his last years in Abilene, in the order he said it.

Under each quotation is what it was (a diary entry, a letter and to whom, an article) and when he wrote it. Where the series tells the story more fully, a link takes you there.

The quotations marked ABOUT KEVIN, shaded blue, are the things Dad wrote about Kevin. A chronology of Dad and Kevin closes the chapter.

The spelling and punctuation are Dad's own.

The War Years

1943–1945

> It is discipline and more discipline. … The Army is a tough life but I like it. I feel that the Lord has a place for me.

Letter to Grandpa and Grandma · 22 September 1943
Read more: Volume Two, “Pvt. Engle Reporting” →

> They asked me as to whether I was a conscious objector (spelled wrong but time is flying) to killing in defense of the nation. I told him I was not.

Letter to the folks · 5 October 1943
Read more: Volume Two, “Pvt. Engle Reporting” →

> Today the fellows brought back the "Life" magazine. They think my Mother pretty good looking.

Letter home · 13 February 1944
Read more: Volume Two, “What Ever Made You Want to Fly?” →

> he looked at me and grinned and said. "What ever made you want to fly"? … My troubles are these - too tense, afraid and slow well what more could be wrong - Why did I ever get in this Air Corps.

Letter home · 14 March 1944
Read more: Volume Two, “What Ever Made You Want to Fly?” →

> First however I guess I had better tell you the worst. I am no longer on my way toward being a pilot, navigator, or bombardier. … My instructor said I could make pilot if I wanted to. … Yes March 31 was a great day but Oh April 1st.

Letter to the folks · 1 April 1944
Read more: Volume Two, "But Oh April 1st" →

> Here's the way I feel. Its a place where I know I'll be helping win the war. I'm no better than anyone else so that's where I'll be if they put me there. The Lord can take care of me just as well in a gun turret as in any other position.

Letter home · 22 April 1944
Read more: Volume Two, "But Oh April 1st" →

> My crew is #243. … I believe the Lord is giving me a great crew. I'm really going to need His help as never before in the next few weeks.

Letter home · 11 August 1944
Read more: Volume Two, "Crew #243" →

> I went up and found that I was to fly a while. So for the next 20 minutes (approx.) I had the controls quite a bit of the time. … I flipped her way over on the side and around we went. … I'm having the time of my life I only hope I can get to fly that 24 some more.

Letter home · 28 September 1944
Read more: Volume Two, "Crew #243" →

> P.S. Please pray that the Lord will prepare me for combat physically, mentally, spiritually etc. (In all ways)

Letter to his mother · 7 November 1944
Read more: Volume Two, “Crew #243” →

> When a person's above the clouds there with only water below you realize even more how much your dependent on God.

Letter home · 24 November 1944
Read more: Volume Two, “Island Hopping” →

> Today we went on first strike at the enemy. Wawak! Our target was a supply road. We were lead ship so I really got a view of it all. No flak No Zeros. … The Red Cross was there with grapefruit juice.

Letter to his dad · 17 December 1944
Read more: Volume Two, “Island Hopping” →

> Hello from Jolly Rogers! … I'm sure hoping and praying that we may get the victory soon. I'm getting tired of this war and don't care who knows it.

Letter to his dad · 28 December 1944
Read more: Volume Two, “Hello from Jolly Rogers!” →

> New Year's over and first mission completed. … We hit the Philippines. … Over the target I was eating life savers one right after the other. I had them stocked on my toggle switched.

Letter to Keith · 3 January 1945
Read more: Volume Two, “Hello from Jolly Rogers!” →

> There under the celleloid was my Captain my kid brother (grinning from ear into ear) Mom and my two sis'es and Dad standing on the new porch with his hands in his pockets You can imagine how I felt. (home sick)

Letter home · 10 February 1945
Read more: Volume Two, “Hello from Jolly Rogers!” →

> Often I've been in the "valley of the shadow of death" but He says "Fear not" and I have nothing to worry about. About the worst wound so far is a mosquito bite.

Letter to Keith · 15 February 1945
Read more: Volume Two, “Somewhere in the Philippines” →

> We completed a rough mission over Formosa today. Truly Ps. 23:4 was again proved to me. Because we were in that valley.

Letter to his mother · 3 March 1945
Read more: Volume Two, “Somewhere in the Philippines” →

Chicago, Courtship and the Call

1950–1951

> Surprise of surprises - I'm going to be doing the Morning Clock (Bob Murfins job) 4 morning in July (4,8,11,15). Pray for me.

Letter to Eloise · 29 June 1950
Read more: Volume Five, “A Radio on the Farm” →

> I have no idea how many faithful listeners I have lost the station by now. Even if no one else enjoys it I can say I'm having the time of my life.

Letter to Mary Lou · 13 July 1950
Read more: Volume Five, “A Radio on the Farm” →

> Suppose every night at 10:00 your time which is 9:00 PM here we pause for prayer together. … So even though miles separate us we can meet together before the Lord. Let's call it at taps.

Letter to Mary Lou · August 1950
Read more: Volume Two, “Meet You at Taps” →

> You know how I love radio work, darling - well it looks as though over there I'll get to do it. The Lord has all these things planned.

Letter to Mary Lou · November 1950
Read more: Volume Five, “Religious Radio Broadcasting” →

> I'm first of all thankful for my Saviour. He gave His all for me. … Next I thank Him for you. Your friendship is more than I ever dreamed of finding in anyone.

Letter to Mary Lou · 23 November 1950
Read more: Volume Two, “Thanksgiving, 1950” →

> Next Mary Lou I'm thankful for His leading to the islands. Yesterday I received word that my visa is to be granted. I'm so happy. Thanx for your prayers.

Letter to Mary Lou · 23 November 1950
Read more: Volume Two, “Thanksgiving, 1950” →

> Heard Helen Borth the other day.

Letter to Mary Lou · 14 March 1951
Read more: Volume Five, “Helen Barth” →

> Say I heard Mr. Brooks twice while on the ship. On Monday night he said something like this - "Next week we'll have a guest Mr. Kenneth Engle now on the California Bear - " (Thrill)

Letter to Mary Lou · 14 March 1951
Read more: Volume Five, “Listening from the Ship” →

Manila and Binangonan

1951–1967

> First, I'll take to say that it's been above and beyond anything I ever dreamed of - like my Mary Lou.

Letter to Mary Lou · 20 March 1951
Read more: Volume Two, "Maganda" →

> In the evening out to DZAS. I now do the announcing for the program. … They are all so thrilled the way the school is going over. We get more letters than any other program. May all the glory go to Him.

Letter to Mary Lou · 26 March 1951
Read more: Volume Five, "The Bible School of the Air" →

> Sure enough there were two letters from Mary Lou. I was so excited I tried to use the P.O. key to open car door.

Diary · 18 May 1951
Read more: Volume Two, "The Letter She Lost" →

> Talked to Steve about Brigade. Later talked to Noel. I'm very encouraged, step by step as He leads.

Diary · 30 September 1951
Read more: Herald of Christ, "Is There a Cost?" →

A year after he landed in Manila. Mary Lou was to sail that October.

> I can hardly realize that a year has passed. … Around here they are already kidding me about next October.

Letter to his parents · 12 March 1952

> On April 26th Mary Lou Leonard and I were married in the San Juan Gospel Hall. … Dogs were barking outside and maybe it was not just like in the States but the Lord was there and that was the most important part.

Letter to friends at The Fields, New York · About May 1953
Read more: Volume Two, "Wilt Thou Go with This Man?" →

> Surely Satan is busy keeping folk from studying the Word and learning the Good News of salvation. We ask your prayers for those who want to know more of the Lord Jesus and are being opposed by the Enemy of souls. Prayer is our best weapon.

Missionary newsletter report · June 1954

> To market. Didn't spend much because finances are low. Had a few centavos left. 65 in bank and that's all we know of.

Diary · 18 June 1954
Read more: Volume Two, "Eloise's Ten Dollars" →

> Again at just the right time He sent it in. We thank Him for each such experience.

Diary · 18 June 1954
Read more: Volume Two, "Eloise's Ten Dollars" →

> Brigade with faithful 3: Rudy, Reny & Doming.

Diary · 8 January 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, "The Faithful Three" →

> Election in afternoon. Mr. Mercado got Chairmanship. Noel Ison Sunday School Superintendent; Rudy & Reny other SS offices.

Diary · 9 January 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “The Faithful Three” →

> Took Brigade swimming to Balara. 7 boys and 3 leaders. Dominy & Arturo passed swimming test.

Diary · 29 January 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “Bright and Keen” →

> Elected Rudy for Publicity and Gospel Activities Chair.

Diary · 27 February 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “The Faithful Three” →

> Brigade tests of strength.

Diary · 5 March 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “Bright and Keen” →

> Got gifts for Rudy and Lety. Went to office worked, then to Rudy's graduation with Reny. Secretary of Education Hernandez spoke.

Diary · 31 March 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “The Faithful Three” →

> Brigade fellow passing tests for camp contest.

Diary · 9 April 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “Bright and Keen” →

> At Light Bringers, Reny and Rudy gave chalk talk. Went to Bilibid. Mercado and I spoke. Brigadiers sang.

Diary · 19 June 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “A Boy Who Showed Up” →

> Only Rudy to work at BSA. Rudy cut his hand. Brigade boys helped in the afternoon.

Diary · 25 June 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “A Boy Who Showed Up” →

> Rudy and Doming dedicated their lives to the Lord.

Diary · 31 July 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “Rudy Baptized” →

> Taught. Rudy baptized. Farewell for us.

Diary · 4 September 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “Rudy Baptized” →

> Farewell at Light Bringers Surely brought tears. Thank Him for all these young people. Sang "Blest Be The Ties".

Diary · 11 September 1955
Read more: Herald of Christ, “Rudy Baptized” →

> Kevin is now almost a year old.

Letter to John Smart, Emmaus · 16 July 1958 ABOUT KEVIN

> Mr. & Mrs. Cyril H. Brooks were used of the Lord to begin the work in 1950. … It began as a "sideline" but has become a very important part of the Philippine work.

Letter to John Smart · 27 May 1959
Read more: In His Joy, "The Bible School of the Air" →

> This is a great day for radio work in the Philippines!

Letter to John Smart, Emmaus · 27 May 1959
Read more: In His Joy, "The Bible School of the Air" →

With Uncle Kevin Dyer, visiting Manila:

> Kevin & I worked on "Teach Others."

Diary · 10 July 1959
Read more: Volume Two, "Teach Others Also" →

> We have had a wonderful term in every way.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 10 January 1960

> May we say to His glory that it has been a wonderful term in His service. He has done exceeding abundantly above all we ask or thought. From the day we stepped from the ship and found He had a house ready for us to the doors of opportunity He swung open in teaching, youth work, provincial work…

Letter to the Christians of Woodside Bible Chapel · 15 March 1960

The elders' letter approving the furlough came the morning the family went with him to Cavite, to a meeting of Navy servicemen and their wives:

> I brought it to the car on the run.

Letter to the Christians of Woodside Bible Chapel · 15 March 1960
Read more: In His Joy, "Christian Servicemen's Centers" →

> Went with Mr. Reinheimer to San Francisco for typewriters for BSA. Went to Remington & Sears. Finally found two Remingtons #17 at a used place $60 each. Felt the Lord directed.

Diary · 30 June 1961
Read more: Volume Three, "Mr. Reinheimer" →

> At 1:30 Mr Reinheimer there —

Diary · 30 July 1961
Read more: Volume Three, "Mr. Reinheimer" →

> O Lord my life I give to Thee on the altar.

Diary · 20 February 1962
Read more: Volume Four, "Down the Hall" →

Of the Bible School of the Air:

> Each week we fill three containers with the mail coming back to us.

Prayer letter · June 1962

> Mr. & Mrs. Cyril Brooks first arrived here in the Islands in 1922. So this marks their fortieth anniversary in the work.

Prayer letter · About December 1962

> Each week we take several thousand lessons to the post office. … Is it possible to do the work of the Lord effectively without a burden?

Prayer letter · Early 1963

> "Then Caleb calmed the people." … It reminds me of what people around Galilee might have been like. … In this area we are seeking to be fishers of men.

Letter to Beachwood Chapel · 2 April 1963
Read more: In His Joy, "Binangonan" →

> We had the joy of seeing 11 young people baptized in Binangonan last Lord's Day. When I say we I mean that Becky and Kevin went along. … They had a farewell meal at noon. It will be hard to leave these folks.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 25 July 1963 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Eleven in the Lake" →

> We have had so much sunshine surely we should not fear the clouds.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 25 July 1963
Read more: In His Joy, "Eleven in the Lake" →

Of the funeral of Mr. T. E. McCully, Ed McCully's father, at College Church in Wheaton:

> I do not know of a funeral where so many men wept openly.

Letter to fellow missionaries in the Philippines · 13 May 1965

> I THE LORD HAVE CALLED THEE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND WILL KEEP THEE. I have seen the Lord do this for 15 years.

Letter to Rudy Ponce de Leon · 13 August 1965
Read more: In His Joy, "Cloudy Days" →

> As missionaries some of us sowed some of the early seeds. But now is the time for it to have a full Filipino flavor.

Letter to Rudy Ponce de Leon · 13 August 1965
Read more: In His Joy, "Only Eternity Will Show" →

> Mrs. Engle is greatly improved but not wholly. We want only His will.

Letter to Rudy Ponce de Leon · 13 August 1965
Read more: Herald of Christ, "Rudy" →

> A gospel sign in a good location preaches 24 hours a day. … It can speak in any language.

Article · 1966
Read more: In His Joy, "A Billboard, Large and Clear" →

> Checked on flutes. Wrote Alvin.

Diary · 14 March 1966
Read more: Volume Two, "What He Carried" →

> A real testimony of what one man won to the Lord can do… May I reach some like this for Thee.

Diary · 23 March 1966
Read more: Volume Two, "Heaven Came Down" →

> So there are several spiritual generations which go back to that original witness in a hospital in the 1930's. When we sow the Word, we surely do not know what the eternal results will be.

Letter to Bro. Smart · 24 March 1966
Read more: Volume Two, "Heaven Came Down" →

> Karen's birthday. Recd a flute from us. Thrilled

Diary · 18 April 1966
Read more: Volume Two, "What He Carried" →

"Faith Day," as the family came to call it:

> We had been praying much about school expenses — needed P1000 for 1st payment and we just did not have it. Children praying too. Becky & Kevin & I to P.O. Letter from Bella Cameron with P200 specifically given for the children's education… Learned of insurance settlement — almost P1000 very fair — praise Him. What a day.

Diary · 14 July 1966 ABOUT KEVIN

> We have been moving forward by faith not figures in bank book. Now the Lord provides. Great is His faithfulness. … Two ways of figuring — By Fear — By Faith.

Diary · July 1966

> It was just a year ago today that our plane touched down at Manila International Air Port … It has been a good year. However, it has not been a year of all sunshine. There have been cloudy days … it is good to know that "back of the clouds the sun is always shining."

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · December 1966
Read more: In His Joy, “Cloudy Days” →

> What new thing (things) will He do in 1967. I am anxious to see.

Diary · 1 January 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Nothing Is Impossible” →

> We had our first meeting at the San Juan Elementary School on February 2nd, 1952.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 27 January 1967
Read more: In His Joy, “The First Afternoon” →

Give Us This Mountain

BAGUIO · 1967–1970

> He mentioned Baguio. We just smiling — felt it was out of the question

Diary · 25 April 1967
Read more: Volume Two, “Black Thursday” →

> — but see May 26!

Diary · Note added to 25 April 1967
Read more: Volume Two, “Black Thursday” →

> Decision on way to town — pressure great. Must leave field this summer. Hard decision — not sure of leading.

Diary · 25 May 1967
Read more: Volume Two, “Black Thursday” →

> Agreement reached — We had prayed much. Felt the Lord gave us the house.

Diary · 26 May 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “A High Mountain Apart” →

> Gordons song in car to house 'Do not be afraid'

Diary · 26 May 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Do Not Be Afraid” →

> We looked at the house and felt it was just what we needed. … The Lord gave us peace about the whole matter.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 3 June 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Dear Brethren” →

> Mr. Brooks said it possibly was the Lord's way of thrusting us forth into new areas.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 3 June 1967
Read more: Volume Three, "Dear Brethren" →

> Since the above happenings we have received a specific gift for radio work sent to us personally to be used in the way we felt best. Is this the first "green light" toward Baguio radio work?

Letter to the Woodside elders · 3 June 1967
Read more: Volume Three, "Dear Brethren" →

> As you can see we need your prayers. It is sixteen years since I first came to the Philippines. This is a major change of areas. We both feel the Lord has directed. Mary Lou definitely feels better in this climate.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 3 June 1967
Read more: Volume Three, "Dear Brethren" →

> Our new address is simply: GEN. DELIVERY, BAGUIO, PHILIPPINES.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 3 June 1967
Read more: Volume Three, "Dear Brethren" →

> The Brigade program was almost wholly in the hands of the nationals.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 3 June 1967
Read more: Herald of Christ, "In the Hands of the Nationals" →

> We had a childrens meeting about 4 PM. Sang Inibig Ako Ni Jesus. I told "Barney's Barrel."

Diary · 27 June 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Be Not Afraid” →

> My wife, five children and I are now living in this Pines City... because of the health of my wife.

Form letter to Bible School of the Air students · Mid-1967
Read more: Volume Three, “A High Mountain Apart” →

> Got my office in order. Best office Ive ever had. Becky helped me.

Diary · 3 July 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Be Not Afraid” →

> Kevin's birthday — to Burnham Park — to take place of May 26th start.

Diary · August 1967 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Three, “The First Day of School” →

> First day of school for the children at Brent. I took them. Kevin & Stanley went to class room over toward tennis court. They all came back very happy with the first day — Made friends, liked their teachers.

Diary · August 1967 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Three, “The First Day of School” →

> The booster got very hot — that we almost had a fire — strong odor from it.

Diary · August 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Prays for Us Daily” →

> Matt. 14:27 In the storms of life He comes to us and says, "Be of good cheer, It is I, be not afraid."

Diary · 2 September 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “On the Air” →

> First Childrens Bible Hour on the air on DZBS at 330. (8.75) I gave address at the end — had 60 sec.

Diary · 2 September 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “On the Air” →

> We have been given a whole new mission field with great new opportunities.

Letter to Countryside Bible Chapel · 7 September 1967
Read more: In His Joy, “A Whole New Mission Field” →

> Last Saturday our first program went on the air here.

Letter to Countryside Bible Chapel · 7 September 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “On the Air” →

> I could not help recall the first of these conferences which was held in Manila in 1951 with only a handful of men. I had the privilege of speaking to those fellows.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 9 October 1967
Read more: In His Joy, “Christian Servicemen’s Centers” →

> Imagine buying warm things in the Philippines, The Lord has met each need.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 9 October 1967

> …saw report of "Trining" typhoon. Decided to go on. Hour later high winds & rain. Signs down. At Kennon bus said "no go." On to Naguilan Rd — turned back at bridge. Called ML P1.20. OK — Stayed at Crestola — No lights early to bed. So thankful for his protection.

Diary · 17 October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Trining” →

> Winds let up in night. Bridge out to Manila — in fact 2 of them. Tried morning & afternoon to go up but still closed. … Prayer Meeting in the evening by Kerosene light.

Diary · 18 October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “47.9 Inches” →

> 47.9" — 24 hours rain world's record

Diary · 18 October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “47.9 Inches” →

> Sun shining brightly. Decided to go as far as we could. Kept right on going. Busses coming the other way.

Diary · 19 October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Surprised to See Us” →

> Got home at 10:30. They were surprised to see us.

Diary · 19 October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Surprised to See Us” →

> On Wednesday night, our second night, Dad Brooks and I had a long prayer meeting. … It was the worst typhoon in this area in 20 or 30 years.

Typhoon letter, Baguio · October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, "Trining" →

> Water tank is dry

Diary · 23 October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, "ML + I" →

> Out to find water. Found pump at Mesman. Kevin helped with hauling 2 trips — 4 drums

Diary · 24 October 1967 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Three, "Becky's Dishes" →

> Family crisis over Becky's dishes.

Diary · 24 October 1967
Read more: Volume Three, "Becky's Dishes" →

> Mary Lou is better than she has been since leaving the USA, Praise Him! … we have boys meeting from almost the top to the bottom of the Philippines chain of islands.

Letter to Joe Coughlin, Christian Service Brigade · 28 October 1967

> MOMENTS OF MELODY began in October and has continued daily over DZBS here in Baguio.

Article, "Radio Outreach in the Philippines" · Late 1967
Read more: Volume Five, "Moments of Melody" →

> Winds blowing hard from noon on. Typhoon "Welming" ML + I stayed awake most of the night. Children and Chuck rested well.

Diary · 4 November 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Welming” →

> Spoke at Baguio Baptist on Jonah 1+2.

Diary · 5 November 1967
Read more: Volume Three, “Welming” →

> Kitchen, 55 Malvar — Note booster to left — Sometimes voltage not 110 but 40 or 50 volts.

Photo album caption · 1967–70
Read more: Volume Three, “Prays for Us Daily” →

> In December we put up a 10' by 24' Gospel Signboard.

“Signboard Story” · December 1967
Read more: In His Joy, “A Billboard, Large and Clear” →

> We have often asked prayer for three B's. (Broadcasting, Brigade and Binangonan) Now we add a fourth: Baguio!

Prayer letter, “Dear Friends” · January 1968
Read more: In His Joy, “The Four B's” →

> Yes, He did many new things for us in 1967 and we thank Him.

Prayer letter, “Dear Friends” · January 1968
Read more: In His Joy, “The Four B's” →

> We long that some of these men will come back to fight another war here in the future with the Sword of the Spirit as their weapon.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 10 January 1968 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Pray That This War Would Be Over" →

> The Brigade work is 100% in the hands of nationals.

Letter to Joe Coughlin, Christian Service Brigade · 20 March 1968

> MOMENTS OF MELODY is heard daily on seven stations throughout the Philippines. Surely this is of the LORD. I did not ask one of these stations to carry the program.

Letter · Spring 1968
Read more: In His Joy, "A Whole New Mission Field" →

> I feel we have some of the finest young men in leadership positions in Brigade that are available in the Philippines.

Letter to Joe Coughlin, Christian Service Brigade · April 1968

> Pres Marcos arrives in evening. We got Living Series at OMF P32 4 volumes — ML wrote in them.

Diary · 9 May 1968
Read more: Volume Three, "The Kettle" →

> Awoke 530 - Booster - kettle on fire - minutes later ML smelled smoke - screamed - I ran - ground wire red hot. Threw water on curtains - before. Pull off all electricity. A few minutes later might have been too late.

Diary · 11 May 1968
Read more: Volume Three, "The Kettle" →

> Electrician repaired stove — put in new box. Nick did repair work. 3 new windows — bars etc. Boys club — Breaking of Bread in evening. Wellers. CHB. Epplers. Mrs Balanag. Sgt. Jaleco here. CHB with us over weekend.

Diary · 11 May 1968
Read more: Volume Three, "Breaking of Bread" →

> We got up at 530. ML called Evelyn — Fred called aide of Pres. Said Pres. dressing — they are going early. We ate rushed to Airport. Within minutes Pres. came. Review + 21 salute by PMA.

Diary · 12 May 1968
Read more: Volume Three, "Pres Marcos —" →

> I had the joy of speaking at the first conference in 1951 soon after my arrival in the Philippines. We had less than a dozen men at that conference. This time we had around 160.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 30 July 1968
Read more: In His Joy, "The Four B's" →

Of Cyril and Anna Brooks, who stayed with the Engles for the servicemen's conference:

> As you may recall both Mary Lou and I stayed with them when we first came to the Philippines.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 30 July 1968

> We have seen a definite answer to prayer in regard to her health since our move. The Lord has opened up a whole new area of work here in Northern Luzon.

Letter to Dr. and Mrs. Harlow · 16 September 1968

> …since our move here Baguio has set a new world's record for rainfall. It rained 47.9 inches in a 24 hour period !

Letter to friends · October 1968
Read more: Volume Three, "47.9 Inches" →

> After a time of singing together as Mary Lou plays the piano we divide into classes. Mary Lou has the ladies. I have the men and Becky and Karen the children.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 17 October 1968
Read more: In His Joy, "Except the Lord Build the House" →

> It is often much easier to look back on the guidance of the Lord than to move forward into it.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 17 October 1968
Read more: In His Joy, "Except the Lord Build the House" →

> As we look back we really believe the Lord led us to Aurora Hill in May of 1967.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 17 October 1968
Read more: Volume Three, “A High Mountain Apart” →

> You were honest in writing to me and I want to be the same with you. … We went home in 1963 and it took two years before we were allowed by a doctor to return.

Letter to a young man thinking of missionary work · 25 March 1969

> I have my opinion of these long rambling missionary letters. But it did seem like we had many things to share with you.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 4 April 1969

> This city is a favorite honeymoon spot....Mary Lou and I had our honeymoon here 16 years ago.

Letter to Joe Coughlin · 17 April 1969

> Sometimes we feel we have taken on too many projects. Then someone comes along with another.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 17 June 1969

> At Haacks saw that typhoon was moving this way — remembered "Trining". Hurried on — made good time.

Diary · 6 September 1969
Read more: Volume Three, “He Hadn't Forgotten” →

> The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build.

Diary · 1970
Read more: Volume Three, “Back and Forth” →

> However, we add local announcements and the children write to us here. My boys, Kevin and Stanley, help me with the program.

Article · 1970 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, “My Boys Help Me” →

Of Mary Lou:

> Her health has been so much better during these Baguio days.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 17 February 1970

A Kansas Furlough

1970–1973

> All of a sudden we have more recording to do than we can keep up with. But we know He is able.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 2 September 1971
Read more: In His Joy, "Ten Thousand Miles Away" →

> Though we are 10,000 miles away we speak daily by tape recording over there. We actually have more broadcast hours now than ever before.

Letter · Fall 1971
Read more: In His Joy, "Ten Thousand Miles Away" →

Of the Christian Service Brigade:

> We got it going in the Philippines by the Lord's help several years ago. It is an exciting story.

Letter to a meeting host, before a speaking tour · 8 October 1971
Read more: Herald of Christ, "Is There a Cost?" →

> The amazing thing is that even though we are here in the USA the Lord has made it possible for us to broadcast more hours than ever before overseas.

Letter to Mrs. Margaret Van Ryn, Workers Together · 5 November 1971

> Christ is the answer to the cry of the human heart. … Glynn has helped me so much with my broadcasts.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 15 December 1971

> Kevin and Stanley attend a Boys Brigade near here. Kevin tells me he is to give devotions tonight. That will be a first for him.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 10 February 1972 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "A Kansas Furlough" →

> We ask you to pray as we bring up three teen-agers. … It seems the enemy of souls has never worked harder but the Lord is greater and is giving greater victories than ever.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 10 February 1972
Read more: In His Joy, "A Kansas Furlough" →

> I first saw the Philippines as I served with the Fifth Air Force during Liberation in 1944-45. I returned to the Philippines in 1951 not with a gun but that time with the "sword of the Spirit", the Bible.

Letter to President Ferdinand Marcos · 13 March 1972
Read more: In His Joy, "Bibles for the Cadets" →

> So little is much when God is in it!

Letter to Countryside Bible Chapel · 20 March 1972
Read more: In His Joy, "Ten Thousand Miles Away" →

> While in the Chicago area I worked for four years with a Christian radio station there (WMBI). Then in 1951 I went to the Philippines in missionary work. … After Mary Lou finished her nurse's training she came out to the Philippines and we were married there.

Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Clounie · 14 April 1972

> Karen is celebrating her 17th birthday today. It hardly seems possible that it is 17 years since she arrived and we were living in our first little house in San Juan, Rizal, Philippines.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 18 April 1972
Read more: In His Joy, "Born in San Juan" →

> I have never had so many opportunities in the area...Lions Club...Rotary.

Letter to Glynn and Lela Dean, FEBC · 21 April 1972

> Harvest is underway here in Kansas. Kevin and I have been out helping with the farm work on my brother's wheat farm. Dad is 73 and still takes his turn on the combine. … It is my favorite time of the year. It is always a reminder of what the Lord Jesus said about looking on the fields that are white unto harvest.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 27 June 1972 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "A Kansas Furlough" →

> When we went out to the Philippines more than twenty years ago we said our greatest need was prayer... You have prayed and the Lord has done powerful things.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · December 1972

> What a 'rat race' life is here. It really is too fast. When you try to slow down you just about get run over.

Letter to Glynn and Lela Dean, FEBC · 16 January 1973

> What he orders, he pays for. If he sends you out, gives you a job to do, he's going to take care of it.

Testimony tape, John Hay, Baguio · 31 January 1973
Read more: Volume Two, “Manila and the Bible School of the Air” →

Sending support for Lino Aragon's work with the Children's Bible Hour:

> I am sure there will be many children in heaven that heard the message on that program. … Sometimes when I feel I am at the end of my rope, I remember I am not at the end of HIS rope.

Letter to Lela Dean · 2 February 1973

Back to the Mountain

BAGUIO · 1973–1975

> Happy Anniversary! The way mail goes these days I think I better get that word to you now.

Letter to his parents, Grant and Mabel Engle · 3 September 1973

> We just look back and marvel at all the LORD has done since we left Kansas June 23rd.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 10 September 1973
Read more: In His Joy, “Back to the Mountain” →

> The great need is for a piece of land on which to build. … I have… the best set up for recording that I have ever had.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 10 September 1973
Read more: In His Joy, “Back to the Mountain” →

> I probably sounded casual when you told me that they liked Moment to Remember. Actually I was thrilled.

Letter to Glynn and Lela Dean · 26 October 1973
Read more: In His Joy, “Gospel Dimensions” →

> I am now very thankful to have a 6 cylinder car, the first I have ever owned.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 26 November 1973

> I was asked to present the Bibles. I spoke for possibly five minutes and then each man came forward to receive his Bible. There were 114 Bibles given to the men. … As we walked among the crowd afterwards a number of Bibles were in evidence. It almost seemed like we were attending a Bible conference to see people carrying the Bibles!

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 24 January 1974
Read more: In His Joy, "Bibles for the Cadets" →

> I let so many things crowd in and let that which I really enjoy the most…radio take a "back burner." I feel I have made a mistake in this and plan to do better in 1974.

Letter to Glynn Dean · 18 February 1974
Read more: In His Joy, "Gospel Dimensions" →

> Kevin is helping in my studio…splicing tapes. He can help me quite a bit now. In fact did I tell you he made up his own 15 minute program for teens called GOSPEL DIMENSIONS. We don't know if they will put it on DZAS or not. They have a sample right now.

Letter to his mother and dad · 23 April 1974 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Gospel Dimensions" →

> The 45th semi-annual Servicemen's Bible conference has just finished here in Baguio. About 75 men and their wives attended, mostly from Clark Field and Subic Naval Base. The 'Kitty Hawk' aircraft carrier was also represented. Pray for these servicemen and their wives, also for those who work at servicemen's centers seeking to witness for Christ.

Prayer report, MISSIONS magazine · May–June 1974
Read more: In His Joy, "Christian Servicemen's Centers" →

> Hard to believe that a year ago we were closing down things there.

Family letter to his parents · 25 May 1974

> Pray for us as we seek to reach the "brown gold"…the people of this area with the Gospel. It is work to mine either kind of gold.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · September 1974
Read more: In His Joy, "Short-Term Missionaries" →

> Karen taught some of the girls at the Chapel guitar… also helped some of the SS teachers with flannelgraph. They enjoyed getting to Binangonan and San Juan and seeing so many old friends.

Letter to Glynn and Lela Dean · 16 September 1974
Read more: In His Joy, "Short-Term Missionaries" →

> A high school paper should not contain anything that could not be sent to the grandparents.

Letter to the adviser of the Brent Courier, Brent School · 18 October 1974

> Typhoon after typhoon....two of the worst we have ever seen. … The work here goes slowly. Satan is at work everywhere trying to defeat all of us.

Letter to Glynn Dean, FEBC · 31 October 1974

> The name Baguio means "storm."

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · November 1974
Read more: In His Joy, "They Could Be on Their Own" →

> We are in a church planting situation and it is hard going. I find a great need to teach the Word. … GREAT IS HIS FAITHFULNESS!

Thanksgiving letter to Mr. and Mrs. William McRae · 28 November 1974

> We have seen much blessing in the work lately but correspondence has suffered. … I speak Tagalog although in preparing messages I must study hard and often write much of it out. We lived in a Tagalog area for 15 years.

Letter to Rick and Carol · 6 February 1975

> I do not like to attack groups. It is not my usual stance. I prefer to be positive.

Letter to Dr. Henry McGee, headmaster of Brent School · 24 February 1975

> More and more we feel the believers here could be on their own. However, we would so much like to see them in their own building.

Letter to Glynn and Lela Dean · 19 March 1975
Read more: In His Joy, "They Could Be on Their Own" →

Of a boy with a hunched back who had come to their home in 1969, and who trusted the Savior shortly before he died:

> We sow....someone else waters and God gives the increase.

Letter to Tony, a fellow Cubs fan · 21 April 1975

> US Ambassador to Viet Nam at play OKLA.

Diary · 10 May 1975
Read more: Volume Three, "Jud Fry" →

At the PMA graduation, where Dr. Christiaan Barnard and Dr. Denton Cooley were guests:

> Stan got their autographs and Kevin took their pictures!

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 16 May 1975 ABOUT KEVIN

> Moving up day — Upper. We went there to see Kevin receive best actor of the year gold metal. All broke out of my office almost.

Diary · 23 May 1975 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Three, "Best Actor of the Year" →

> Kevin, Stan & I at gate 645 — went to Recruiting Office. Kevin shaved head & shots — sworn in … Said good bye —

Diary · 27 May 1975 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Three, "The Gate at Subic" →

A week after Kevin was sworn into the Navy at Subic:

> This kind of a decision is always hard to make. … So our family is now four....Stan and Gordon with us. … Even our leaving seems to be a challenge to some.

Letter to Phil Clarkson, for the Woodside elders · 2 June 1975 ABOUT KEVIN

Read more: Volume Three, "The Gate at Subic" →

> This is Independence Day in the Philippines. … Though we leave this country we love for a time we will continue to have a radio ministry here.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 12 June 1975

> We remember your seeing us off in 1965...the Peanuts book and apples. Say, that was ten years ago almost....where do the years go.

Letter to Ray · 12 June 1975

Home to Abilene

1975–2009

Of Bob Logan:

> We were in a youth group at Austin Gospel Hall. (1946....30 years ago!)

Letter to John · 3 January 1976

After the fall of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos:

> We can still reach that area by means of radio.

Letter to Dave Wielenga · January 1976

> Becky & Dave — Mathson work · baby coming / Karen — work, future plans / Kevin — Temptations, responsibilities · Education, HS, college or military / Stan — Job. Allergy. foot-toe. car / Gordon — maturing * GRIT / Douglas — saved early age

Diary · Memo page, 1976 ABOUT KEVIN

Read more: Volume Four, "Saved Early Age" →

> Let us never be satisfied to be "receivers" but may we also be "transmitters."

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 30 March 1976

Read more: In His Joy, "Radio from the Wheat Fields" →

Kevin, on the USS White Plains in Japan, was about to sail for the Philippines:

> How we would enjoy going with him and walking down Morning Glory Street in Baguio and seeing the new chapel!

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 30 March 1976 ABOUT KEVIN

Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →

> Presents — Kevin E sent mirror from Japan.

Diary · 18 April 1976 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Four, "A Mirror from Japan" →

Dad wrote that Kevin, back in the Philippines a year after joining the Navy there, planned to go to the Gospel Hour at the Christian Servicemen's Center at Clark Field and then up to Baguio, and he likened it to Paul sending Timothy back to Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 3).

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 8 May 1976 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Christian Servicemen's Centers" →

> Our oldest son, Kevin, is in the Far East in the Navy. He just spent some time back in the Philippines. He was able to visit Baguio three times. … We felt much like the apostle Paul in I Thessalonians three where he sent his son in the faith, Timothy, back to Thessalonica.

Prayer letter · Summer 1976 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →

> Oh Panginoon, sa mga panahong hindi ko alam ang aking gagawin, panatilihin Mo pong makatitig ako sa Iyo. (O Lord, in the times I don't know what to do, keep me looking to You.)

Letter to Brother Sofonias Clavecilla, San Juan (written in Tagalog) · 15 July 1976

> Our son, Kevin, is our representative out in that part of the world now. … As a boy he used to like to listen to tapes about Adoniram Judson. … I wrote him recently that now he is getting to be a missionary to that part of the world just like Judson. (More on Judson and Hudson Taylor →)

Letter to the Northwest Missionary Study Class · 22 July 1976 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →

Of the land for the Baguio chapel:

> a great answer to prayer. Land was getting so expensive there and we almost gave up.

Letter to Mrs. Dayton · 22 July 1976

After a hard week at Kansas Bible Camp, which the director called one of the best in years:

> So often we feel our own weakness and must lean heavily upon Him. … I would like to know what the LORD thought of it!

Letter to Bill · 27 August 1976

> Our missionary in the Pacific area at this time is our son, Kevin.

Letter to Colton Gospel Chapel · 30 October 1976 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →

> The result was that before Rick got back on the ship he trusted the Lord as Savior. … It is the first one that Kevin has led to the Lord.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 2 March 1977 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →

> Interestingly it was 21 days later that the opportunity to get land for the Chapel came to us.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 10 June 1977
Read more: In His Joy, "They Could Be on Their Own" →

> Overall though we believe that our absence has been good for the work. … It is not our work…it is the Lord's work. Just as our children need us at a certain time but then they need to be on their own…so it is with our children in the faith.

Letter to the Woodside elders · 10 June 1977
Read more: In His Joy, "They Could Be on Their Own" →

> We had been praying for land for five years. … I trust this experience will someday be useful in the Philippines. … We feel that at this time the Lord wants us here.

Letter to Phil and Daisy Clarkson, for the Woodside elders · 10 June 1977
Read more: In His Joy, "They Could Be on Their Own" →

> We are growing older (an understatement) and enjoying our new roles of being in-laws and grandparents! … [Kevin's visit to Baguio, Binangonan, San Juan and Faith Academy was] probably his sixth visit to the Philippines since he has been in the Navy.

Printed prayer letter · December 1977 ABOUT KEVIN

> In many ways it was a difficult year. We had the decision to make regarding the Philippines... we felt the Lord made it clear that we were to delay our return.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 24 December 1977

> Ginny (April) Betsy (May) Paul (June), ML July.

Diary · 1978
Read more: Volume One, "Ginny, Mary Lou, Paul and Betsy" →

> When I saw the Philippines, I really loved them. Most of my time in the outfit was spent there. … Bible School of the Air had phenomenal growth. In 1967 we gave an award to the one millionth student. … One of the purposes of missionary work is to establish people in the churches so they can carry on.

Newspaper interview, Abilene Reflector-Chronicle, "Childhood Dreams Prompt…" · 11 February 1978

> What a great calling we have from the Lord. … Up until now they have been using our little pump organ that has been in the Philippines since 1952!

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 5 April 1978

To an old friend facing an operation:

> He is the God who is enough.....enough for every situation of life.

Letter to Phil and Daisy Clarkson · 26 July 1978

Christmas 1978, with the family home:

> Kevin has learned to play music on a saw just like his granddaddy Leonard did years ago,

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 15 January 1979 ABOUT KEVIN

> We lived in San Juan, Rizal and also Baguio City. We love the Philippines and the Filipino people. I was there during liberation as a serviceman. Then went back in 1951.

Letter to Miraflor, a Filipina in the United States · 13 March 1979

> The original survey team for OMF in 1951 stayed with the Brooks. I was still single at the time and was staying there, too.

Letter to Mrs. Lorraine Allison · 13 March 1979

> All of a sudden the people of China are able to write to the outside world. … Mary Lou and I have sponsored a program for children since 1967.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 29 March 1979

> I went overseas later in 1944 and flew missions over the Philippines. After studies here in the USA I returned to the Philippines as a missionary in 1951. Most of the past 25 or so years have been spent there.

Letter to Dr. Robert Naylor · 3 April 1979

> Another of our Brigade 'boys' [is] now an elder at San Juan. … It is a principle of II Tim. 2:2 and it works.

Letter to an old friend who taught him in Sunday School at Austin · 26 April 1979
Read more: Herald of Christ, "The Rest of Rudy's Story" →

> We do not feel this means that the Philippines is cut out of the picture. We continue to send tapes and materials. I sent 44 books out last week.

Letter to Chuck and Winnie Christensen · May 1979

> Both Stan and Kevin were born in San Juan Hospital, San Juan, Rizal. Delivered by Dra. Nora Diokno Casas, sister of Senator Diokno.

Letter to friends · 7 December 1979 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Three, "Five Beautiful Dolls" →

Of Kevin:

> [He] just finished four years in the Navy. He entered the Navy at Subic.

Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Soterios Metropoulos · 7 December 1979 ABOUT KEVIN

> We consider Rudy as one of our Timothys from our years in the Philippines.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · March 1980
Read more: Herald of Christ, "Led by One of the Original Members" →

> When we moved to Baguio in 1967 I began a series of five minute broadcasts called Moments of Melody.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · June 1980
Read more: Volume Five, "Moments of Melody" →

> For about 25 years we were missionaries to the Philippines. … We thank the Lord for the privilege of serving him over the years. Great is His faithfulness.

Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Tschetter · 9 January 1981

When martial law was lifted in the Philippines:

> it lasted from 1972 until 1981. We were under Martial Law all of the time we were over there the last time.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 22 January 1981

> Don't worry if it's hard to pronounce the names of the places. The LORD will know what you are praying about!

Letter to the Lees · 25 February 1981
Read more: In His Joy, "Don't Worry If It's Hard to Pronounce" →

> So we thank the Lord that after being away for six years the LORD continues to bless.

Letter to Arnold and Trudy Burkle · 21 August 1981

Though letters from the Philippines asked them to come back:

> the work in Binangonan and Baguio progresses well without us.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 29 June 1982

> We have been involved in other kinds of work such as radio, youth work, Christ For Greater Manila, camp work etc, but this is the work that I have just described that seems to have left the greatest impression. Only eternity will show what really is important but thirty years later, that's the way it looks.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · About 1983
Read more: In His Joy, "Only Eternity Will Show" →

> We have been great users of tracts over the years. Possibly more so in the Philippines.

Letter to Ethelmae · 3 March 1983

> During World War II I was on a Liberator B-24 and the upper turret was built by Martin.

Letter to the Tom Willey Foundation · 14 April 1983
Read more: Volume Two, "Tail Gunner" →

> Give your talent (and you do have talent) and your life to the LORD and you will never be sorry.

Letter to Jerry, a young actor in "The Sound of Music" · 27 April 1983

After Fred Magbanua, general manager of FEBC Philippines, telephoned him:

> In 1959 I taught at the FEBIAS Bible school and Fred was in the class on the Gospel of Mark.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 1 June 1983

> I was a student at Henderson in 1944 with the 66th College Training Detachment. … possibly my favorite place of all my Army Air Corps career.

Letter to the Henderson College Alumni Association · 21 July 1983
Read more: Volume Two, "What Ever Made You Want to Fly?" →

> I even dreamed of being a sports announcer for the Cubs. Maybe that is where I went wrong. Maybe I would be President today???

Letter to Jack, a fellow Cubs fan · July 1983

> Folks got home from Pross Hts.

Diary · 31 July 1983
Read more: Volume Four, "The Wedding" →

> There are no comments. But you know the promises that His word will not return unto Him void!

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 2 September 1983
Read more: In His Joy, "Where No Evangelist Had Gone" →

> Radio is that way and also TV… it reaches people who would not come out to services.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 11 October 1983

> Corkills, Dyer children — to stay with us — Mark + Sue and Craig — good visit.

Diary · 24 November 1983
Read more: Volume Four, "Nine Grandsons" →

> It was impressive to see these young men, who owed so much to their grandma's prayers and counsel, carrying her to Newbern Cemetery. The Cemetery is on the corner of the Engle farm.

Christmas letter · December 1983
Read more: Volume Four, "Newbern Cemetery" →

> The name Baguio means literally 'typhoon.' It is right on 'typhoon alley' and we got our share.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 6 September 1984

> We had a phone call this week from Kevin, who now lives in Dallas. He says it looks like he will soon have a Bible class with some Filipinos that he has contacted there. One of them even took the course "What the Bible Teaches" from our Bible School of the Air. This is exciting to learn that there continues to be fruit from those broadcasts and courses. Pray for Kevin as he teaches this class.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · April 1985 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Fruit in Dallas" →

> On the mission field in the Philippines I would often go to the province alone. Mary Lou would have her hands full with the children. But now Doug is old enough to go along and we do so many of these things together.

Easter letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · April 1985

> We keep in touch by letter with these folks but now our own representative from the family will be there. We value your prayers for Karen.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · June 1985
Read more: In His Joy, "Our Own Representative" →

> It has been ten years now since we have been in the Philippines. Our son, Kevin, was back a couple of times to visit the believers when he was in the Navy. Now our daughter, Karen, is over there on a summer team … She wrote of tasting some of the tropical fruits that she had not had in years.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 11 July 1985 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Our Own Representative" →

> If we have accomplished anything for the Lord, you share in all of it!

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 11 July 1985

> For about 25 years we served as overseas missionaries … a number of our children are now interested in missions.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 18 September 1985
Read more: In His Joy, "Our Own Representative" →

On the publication of Cyril Brooks's autobiography:

> Surely He worked it out that I should get some radio experience at WMBI and then go to a field where Mr. Brooks was already deeply involved in the new radio stations of the Far East Broadcasting Company. … We were married in the Chapel in San Juan and Mr. Brooks gave Mary Lou away in the wedding.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 31 October 1985
Read more: Volume Two, "Manila and the Bible School of the Air" →

> We can't help but wonder if some of our programs were not being beamed out when the transmitters were on full power in the crisis??

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 13 March 1986
Read more: In His Joy, "Don't Worry If It's Hard to Pronounce" →

> I stayed with them when I went over as a single missionary. Then when Mary Lou arrived I moved to the OMF home. Mary Lou and another single lady lived with Brooks until our wedding.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 22 May 1986

> The big event of recent days was the wedding of Kevin our oldest son to Cheryl Ferris in Dallas. Her parents were missionaries in Korea. The two dads performed the ceremony.

Letter for the Woodside bulletin board · Summer 1986 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: In His Joy, "Fruit in Dallas" →

> One by one they go on to that better land. … I am still involved with the recording of the Emmaus Bible Hour.

Letter to Duncan and Sally Mathieson · 6 August 1986

> CALL upon ME and I will answer thee and shew thee Great and Mighty things which thou knowest not. GMT Jer 33:3

Diary · 29 December 1986
Read more: Volume Four, "Saved Early Age" →

> ^ Baptized 14 Jun 87 So. Porcupine ON

Diary · 29 December 1986
Read more: Volume Four, "Saved Early Age" →

> 1986 is a year that I feel we will always remember as one of special testing. We found the Lord a help in every hour of testing. … It was also a year of special opportunity with the evangelistic meetings with Dave Breese.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · January 1987

> It was 36 years ago today that I began my missionary work in the Philippines. It was a Saturday and St. Patrick's Day. A launch brought me in from the freighter which was anchored in Manila Bay. I had boarded the freighter on February 17th in San Francisco at Pier 45. You could say I was very glad to set foot on Philippine soil.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 17 March 1987
Read more: In His Joy, "Thirty-Six Years Ago Today" →

> We all need to be missionaries, I feel is the bottom line.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 17 March 1987
Read more: In His Joy, “Only Eternity Will Show” →

> Dave talking to Doug + Christy. Dave filling baptismal tank — hot water.

Diary · 13 June 1987
Read more: Volume Four, “Spoke on Emmaus Road” →

Doug sang or played the harmonica, Mary Lou played the piano, and Dad gave a short message at the nursing homes and the senior center:

> Mary Lou, Doug (our 10 year old) and I have a gospel team.

Letter to Woodside Bible Chapel · 13 August 1987

Stan and Fiona's wedding day, in England:

> Wedding at noon / STAN + FIONA … Our thots in England. Kevin called. At 2pm (8pm there) Stan + Fiona called ‘Hello Mrs Engle’ — they both said. 100 at wedding.

Diary · 21 November 1987 ABOUT KEVIN

> Kevin's graduation — ML & I both with Kevin … B.A. in Psychology U of Texas at Dallas. Speaker — "Truth changes!" We sat in shade.

Diary · 21 May 1988 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Four, “Armed Forces Day” →

> Began by mentioning KLE in Navy, 2 in Air Force + KES in US Army Air Corps.

Diary · 26 May 1997 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Four, “Abilene” →

> 6 P.M. To 8th St Bridge / Wore Kevin's Navy Jacket.

Diary, Memorial Day · 26 May 1997 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Four, “Abilene” →

> Next is Doug. You will enjoy him!! … He is the son of our "old age."

Letter · 22 August 2003
Read more: Volume Four, “Two Homegoings” →

> Sky Angel Shot Down.

Diary · 4 May 2004
Read more: Volume Five, “Sky Angel” →

> KLE — sent copies of my Journal WWII etc. … Thankful for my childrens calls.

Diary · 3 December 2004 ABOUT KEVIN
Read more: Volume Two, “Tail Gunner” →

> Gordon, enjoy the journey.

To Gordon · Often said, in his later years
Read more: Volume Four, “Two Homegoings” →

Dad and Kevin: A Chronology

1957–2009

22 August 1957	Kevin is born at San Juan Hospital, San Juan, Rizal. Dad later wrote that he was delivered by Dra. Nora Diokno Casas, sister of Senator Diokno. He is named for Uncle Kevin Dyer. Read more: Volume Three, “Five Beautiful Dolls” →
16 July 1958	Dad writes to Emmaus: “Kevin is now almost a year old.”
July 1959	Uncle Kevin Dyer visits Manila. The two Kevins are photographed together. Read more: Volume Two, “Teach Others Also” →
July 1963	Kevin, almost six, goes with Dad to Binangonan, where eleven young people are baptized in the lake. Read more: In His Joy, “Eleven in the Lake” →
5 September 1965	Kevin trusts the Lord at Woodside Bible Chapel, Maywood, Illinois, just before the family returns to the Philippines. Read more: In His Joy, “A New Mission” →
27 March 1966	Eight-year-old Kevin is with Dad at Binangonan when six are baptized at a rocky point on the lake. Read more: Volume Two, “Heaven Came Down” →
14 July 1966	“Faith Day.” With no money for school fees, Dad takes Becky and Kevin to the post office, and the gift is there.
May 1967	Kevin and Dad come down from Baguio to Manila together for a rally.
22 August 1967	Kevin's tenth birthday at Burnham Park, “to take place of May 26th start.” His present: “a telephone set that really works.” Days later Dad takes the children to their first day at Brent School. Read more: Volume Three, “The First Day of School” →
24 October 1967	After the typhoon, ten-year-old Kevin helps Dad haul water up the hill in drums. Read more: Volume Three, “Becky's Dishes” →
January 1968	A sailor from the USS Canberra, who had studied the Bible at the Engle home, writes to Kevin from the Gulf of Tonkin: “Pray that this war would be over soon.” Read more: In His Joy, “Pray That This War Would Be Over” →
About 1970	Dad writes: “My boys, Kevin and Stanley, help me with the program,” the Children's Bible Hour. Read more: In His Joy, “My Boys Help Me” →

22 August 1971	Kevin's fourteenth birthday in Abilene. Mom's diary: "Ken gave him his Leika watch."
10 February 1972	Kevin gives devotions at Boys Brigade for the first time. "That will be a first for him." Read more: In His Joy, "A Kansas Furlough" →
27 June 1972	Kevin and Dad help with the wheat harvest on Uncle Keith's farm. "It is my favorite time of the year." Read more: In His Joy, "A Kansas Furlough" →
Late 1972	Dad's prayer letter: Kevin is a high-school freshman and "an enthusiastic stamp and coin collector." With Becky and Karen he attends Congress III that winter.
3 December 1973	Back in Baguio, Dad writes that Kevin is helping start a campus Bible class at Brent School.
4 February 1974	"Kevin is now taller than Ken."
23 April 1974	Kevin helps in Dad's home studio, splicing tapes, and makes his own fifteen-minute teen program, Gospel Dimensions. Read more: In His Joy, "Gospel Dimensions" →
16 May 1975	At the PMA graduation, "Stan got their autographs and Kevin took their pictures!": Dr. Christiaan Barnard and Dr. Denton Cooley.
23 May 1975	Dad watches Kevin receive the Best Actor gold medal at Brent for playing Jud in Oklahoma! Read more: Volume Three, "Best Actor of the Year" →
27 May 1975	Dad and Stan stand with Kevin at the gate at Subic at 6:45 in the morning. Kevin is sworn into the Navy. "Said good bye." Read more: Volume Three, "The Gate at Subic" →
16 September 1975	After boot camp, Kevin is in fellowship at Laurel Chapel and helps at the Servicemen's Center in San Diego. Read more: In His Joy, "Christian Servicemen's Centers" →
January 1976	Kevin spends his first Christmas away from home with the Don Andersons near San Francisco, then ships out to Japan.
18 April 1976	Easter, and Karen's 21st birthday. Dad's diary: "Kevin E sent mirror from Japan." Read more: Volume Four, "A Mirror from Japan" →

8 May 1976	Kevin is back in the Philippines. Dad writes that he plans to go to the Gospel Hour at the Christian Servicemen's Center at Clark Field, and then to Baguio, like Paul sending Timothy. Read more: In His Joy, "Christian Servicemen's Centers" →
Summer 1976	Kevin visits Baguio three times. The believers write how much his visits encouraged them. Dad remembers the boy who loved the tapes about Adoniram Judson (more on Judson and Hudson Taylor). Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →
2 August 1976	Kevin is at sea in the Indian Ocean near Africa with the carrier Ranger's group.
27 October 1976	Kevin sends home a cassette about Fred Balanag, now an elder in Baguio.
30 October 1976	"Our missionary in the Pacific area at this time is our son, Kevin." On the USS White Plains he and one other Christian lead services and show gospel films. Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →
2 March 1977	Kevin's shipmate Rick, from the Midway, trusts the Lord on the way back from Baguio. "It is the first one that Kevin has led to the Lord." Read more: In His Joy, "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →
April 1977	Home from Japan, Kevin drives with the family to Sault Ste. Marie to see Becky, Dave and baby Stephanie. Dad speaks at the chapel there.
December 1977	Kevin makes "probably his sixth visit to the Philippines since he has been in the Navy": Baguio, Binangonan, San Juan and Faith Academy.
Christmas 1978	Home for Christmas, Kevin plays music on a saw, "just like his granddaddy Leonard did years ago."
May 1979	Kevin leaves the Navy after four years and goes on to Sterling College in Kansas.
7 September 1981	Labor Day: Dad and Kevin play shuffleboard with Grandpa Engle and Uncle Keith at Brown's.
March 1982	Kevin is in college in Hutchinson and teaching Joshua in a Bible class at the chapel there.
May 1984	Kevin moves to Dallas and speaks at the Wednesday meetings at Wheatland Bible Chapel.
April 1985	Kevin plans a Bible class with Filipinos in Dallas; one had taken What the Bible Teaches from the Bible School of the Air. Read more: In His Joy, "Fruit in Dallas" →

19 July 1986	Kevin marries Cheryl Ferris. "The two dads performed the ceremony." The next Sunday Dad speaks at Wheatland Bible Chapel. Read more: In His Joy, "Fruit in Dallas" →
21 November 1987	Stan and Fiona's wedding day in England. Dad's diary: "Kevin called."
21 May 1988	Dad and Mom sit in the shade at Kevin's graduation from the University of Texas at Dallas. It is Armed Forces Day. Read more: Volume Four, "Armed Forces Day" →
26 May 1997	Memorial Day. Dad wears Kevin's Navy jacket to the Eighth Street Bridge to give the prayer. Read more: Volume Four, "Abilene" →
3 December 2004	Dad mails Kevin copies of his World War II journal. "Talked to KLE." Read more: Volume Two, "Tail Gunner" →
About 2006–2009	Dad spends his last years with Kevin and Cheryl in Texas. "If I ever forget," Kevin wrote, "he reminds me he is the dad." Read more: Volume Four, "Two Homegoings" →
5 November 2009	Dad goes home to the Lord in Abilene, four days before his 85th birthday. Kevin holds his hand. Cheryl sings "Finally Home." Read more: Volume Four, "Two Homegoings" →

Sources

Gathered by Kevin Engle, October 2026, from Ken Engle's letters of 1951–1987 (the 509-page KEE letter collection), his wartime letters and the 1950–51 courtship letters, his diaries as transcribed by Gordon Engle, his 1973 testimony tape, and the volumes and companion books of this series.

Diary quotations come from Gordon's stories, which cite the book and page of each one. Letter quotations were checked against the OCR of the original pages.

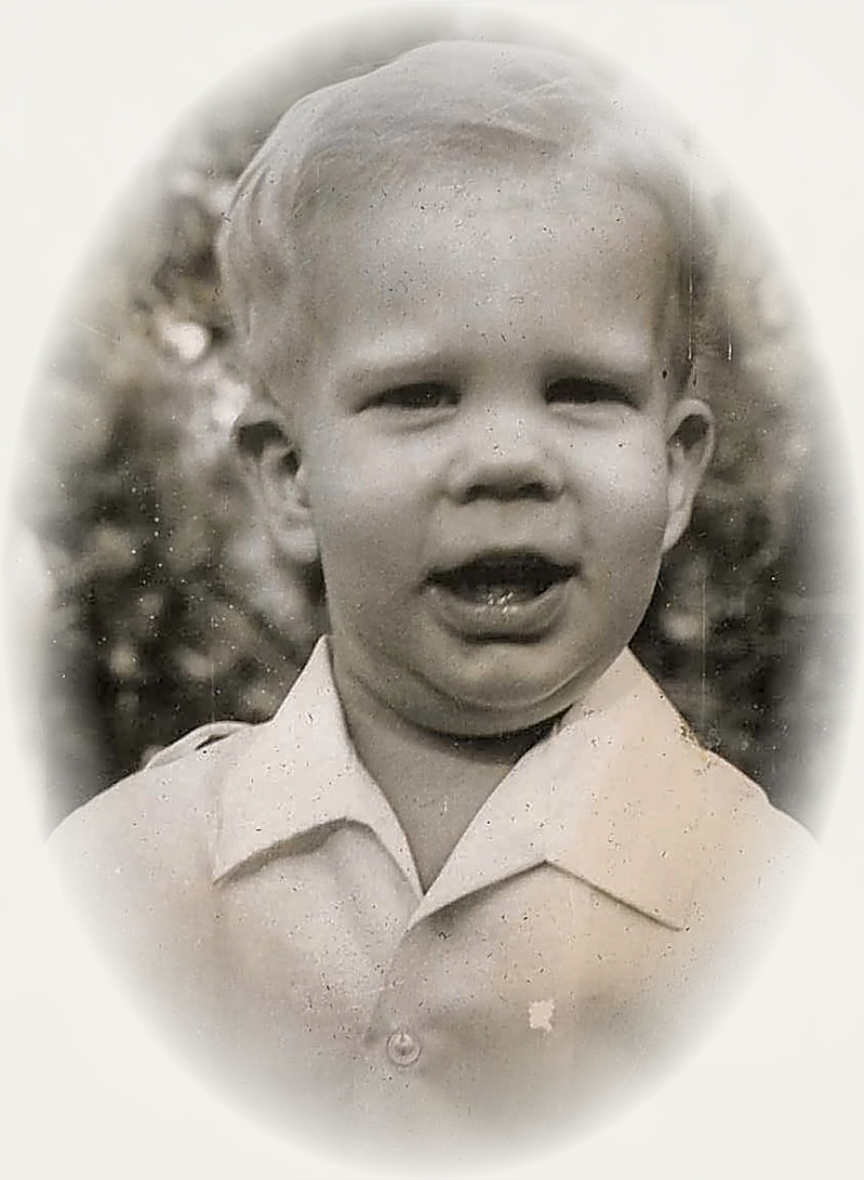
ENTRY THREE

Growing Up in the Philippines

From Ken's and Mary Lou's diaries, Gordon's stories and Kevin's memories · 1966–1988

ADDED 13 OCTOBER 2026

A Preacher Like Dad



Kevin at about three years old, about 1960.
Kevin Engle's collection

Mouth Open, Mid-Sentence

That is Kevin in the photograph, at about three, mouth open in mid-sentence, looking for all the world as if he were already preaching. Maybe he was.

From the time he was a boy, Kevin wanted to be a preacher like his dad. And for twenty years he was, as a lay preacher.

You can still hear him preach. Four of his messages are on Voices for Christ ↗: Daniel 5, Romans 5 in two parts, and Romans 8. His outlines and writings are being gathered on the Kevin's Ministry page.

Dad once told Kevin that he was a better preacher than Dad himself. Kevin doesn't necessarily agree. But that is what Dad said.

Read more about where Kevin began: In His Joy, "Born in San Juan" →

Kevin Engle's collection and Kevin's memories

Kevin in a Calesa

Kevin at about eight, in a calesa, the horse-drawn carriage of the Philippines, taken shortly after he was saved on 5 September 1965 at Woodside Bible Chapel. This was the age he was when he rode out to Binangonan with Dad in March 1966.

Kevin Engle's collection and Kevin's memories

The Shoeshine Kit and the Kite

Francis Court, San Juan, Rizal · about 1960–1966 · From Kevin Engle's recollections

When I was a little boy in the Philippines, a man from Binangonan named Fortunato Gonzal, whom everyone called Tato, gave me two gifts I have never forgotten: a shoeshine kit and a kite. He built them both for me himself.

Tato was a critical part of Dad's ministry in Binangonan, the lakeside town on Laguna de Bay where Dad gave so much of his provincial work. The believers there started meeting in 1956, built a new chapel in 1960, and baptized new believers right in the lake while the fishermen watched from their boats. Tato was one of the faithful men at the heart of that work, and the faithfulness carried on in his family: a number of his children have gone into ministry too.

Years after our family went back to Kansas, it was Tato who wrote Dad with the news from Binangonan, from new home Bible classes in Darangan barrio in 1971 to the great flood of 1972, when the water rose so high he had to move his own family.

Three Young Men

Tato's faithfulness did not end with him. His son Nanding Gonzal, named after his father, now serves as pastor of the church Tato was part of just before he went home to heaven.

In those years three young men were the key leaders, the ones Dad could count on:

- Elino Aragon, who went by Lino. He helped Dad produce his broadcasts.
- Eliseo Co, of the same local church Dad was part of, very active in Bible studies, outreach and discipleship.
- Nanding Gonzal, Tato's son.

Tato and Lino at 55 Malvar

Tato and Lino at 55 Malvar, the family home on Aurora Hill, Baguio City. From left: Stanley, Tato (Fortunato Gonzal), Gordon, Lino Aragon and Kevin. Tato made Kevin the shoeshine kit and the kite.

Kevin Engle's collection

Tato and Lino

Tato (left) and Lino Aragon, two of the faithful men of Binangonan.
Kevin Engle's collection

Shoes for the Missionaries

The shoeshine kit. In the Philippines, many young boys go around shining shoes to earn a little money or help support their families. Tato decided I needed a shoeshine kit too, so he built me one.

So I went into business. I shined shoes for the missionaries at Francis Court, our mission compound in San Juan, Rizal, near Manila, just a mile from where I was born. One of the missionaries had very large shoes. I want to say size 15, though maybe they only seemed that big because I was so small. Either way, they took a lot longer to shine than everyone else's!

And what was all that hard work for? Popsicles. The Magnolia ice cream man came by Francis Court with his little cart, and the money from shining shoes went straight to him.

The kite. Tato also made me a kite. That story, and I hope a picture of the kite, are still to come.

More to come.

Tato’s Shoe Shine Box

The shoe shine box Fortunato Gonzal made for Kevin. The family knew him as Tato, from Binangonan, the fishing town on Laguna de Bay where Dad’s provincial work centered. Tato also made Kevin a kite. Kevin is still looking for a picture of it.
`Kevin Engle’s collection`

The Bicycle Adventure (1968)

Baguio City · 1968 · From Kevin Engle's recollections

Kevin was about eleven, and Baguio was a city of hills. One day in 1968 he set out on a bicycle adventure, and not long afterward he had his appendix out.

The appendix is a footnote. The bicycle adventure is a story of its own, and Evelyn Balanag is part of it. Kevin will tell it here.

Coming soon.

Sixth Grade at Maryknoll, 1969

Kevin's sixth-grade class at Maryknoll Convent School, Baguio City, 1969. Seated, left to right: Maritess de Jesus, Salud Geslani, Pilar Larrucea, Elizabeth Rilloraza, Linda Carino, Milagros Benitez, Roweena Silvestre, Mariflor Guzon, Sarah Magpale, Christopher Moron, Louie Yan, Jimmy Miles, Rafael Uson, Antonio Adorable and Leonard Alabanza. Standing, left to right: Merrick Brow, Ephraim Pang, Andrew Pond, Luke Lao, Bernardine Catbagan, Consuelo Cascolan, Lillibeth San Agustin, Joseph Nacion, Cynthia Dobson, Elena Lao, Kevin Engle, Mary Ann Gosioco, Grace Pang, (name not known), and their teacher, Heidi Acabado. Kevin is the fair-haired boy standing eleventh from the left.

Kevin Engle's collection

Anchors Aweigh

On Thursday 20 March 1975, Kevin, seventeen, rode down to Olongapo at the gate of Subic Bay to try for the Navy. He had been born just down the road, in a San Juan hospital in Manila.

> Kevin left in a.m. for Alongapo to try for the Navy. Anchors Aweigh My Boys is our new theme song.
>
> Mary Lou, 20 March 1975

> Kevin home from Subic. Said he passed the screening test and goes again for 10 tests next week. Really excited about the navy.
>
> Mary Lou, March 1975

Then, on 9 May, in orange ink:

> RED Letter DAY. Navy called for Kevin to report May 27th!! Brent's last day is 25th - graduation! Talk about perfect timing! Oklahoma tonight. Kevin & Stan big parts.
>
> Mary Lou, 9 May 1975

The headmaster at Brent, Dr. McGee, had been a Navy man himself in the Second World War. He rearranged Kevin's schedule so he could sit his exams for credit even if the Navy called him early. That is why a diploma came at all.

From Mary Lou's 1975 diary and Gordon's story "Anchors Aweigh, My Boys" (17 Sep 2026), with Kevin's memories.

Jud Fry

That spring Brent School put on *Oklahoma!* in its gymnasium. Ken wrote to the relatives on 22 April: *"Kevin is in the school play OKLAHOMA...his part is that of Jud."* Jud Fry is the villain, the farmhand who wants the girl, doesn't get her, and dies in the last act.

Kevin says he built Jud's walk on his father, who had just had minor surgery and "walked like a duck." *"I got guns to my side and I got boots on."*

> I became Jud Fry. I was Jud Fry… I actually felt like I had an out-of-body experience. Like I was watching myself on stage.
>
> Kevin, 2026

Saigon had fallen on 30 April. Eleven days later Ken wrote seven words:

> `US Ambassador to Viet Nam at play OKLA.`
>
> Ken, 10 May 1975

Kevin has wondered for half a century what the ambassador thought of his Jud. *"He stepped out of a really, really horrible situation, and yet was able to relax and enjoy a play."*

Best Actor of the Year

Kevin had not planned to go to the awards. *"I am like the number four priority of the actors,"* he says. On Friday 23 May both his parents wrote it down:

> Moving up day — Upper. We went there to see Kevin receive best actor of the year gold metal. All broke out of my office almost.
>
> Ken, 23 May 1975

> Fri. Kevin got gold medal for acting Judd in 'Oklahoma'. Graduation in evening. Carlos P. Romulo was speaker.
>
> Mary Lou, 23 May 1975

Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, the Philippines' foreign minister, spoke to the graduates. *"35 graduated,"* Ken noted. Kevin was not one of them. He was four days from the Navy.

> Kevin's last day with us. Gave Gordon his baseball glove! Chose his menus again — Chicken — Chocolate pie. Sat around fire.
>
> Mary Lou, 25 May 1975

> Ken & boys left at 8 - Hard, but had to happen. Our kids all grow up and go away & it hurts but is necessary.
>
> Mary Lou, 26 May 1975

Listen: Mom's Piano

The Gold Medal, 23 May 1975

Headmaster Henry McGee presents Kevin with the Best Actor of the Year gold medal for playing Jud Fry in Oklahoma! at Brent School, Baguio City, on 23 May 1975. Dr. McGee was a Navy veteran, which Kevin did not know at the time; four days later Kevin was sworn into the Navy at Subic. Looking on at left is one of the school's Episcopal priests, who also taught; Kevin is recalling his name. Best Actor of the Year

Kevin Engle's collection

The Gate at Subic

On Tuesday 27 May, at a quarter to seven in the morning, Ken and Stan stood with Kevin at the gate.

> Kevin, Stan & I at gate 645 — went to Recruiting Office. Kevin shaved head & shots — sworn in … Said good bye —
>
> Ken, 27 May 1975

Mary Lou was two hundred miles north in Baguio, down with the flu. Her whole entry for the day is one sentence:

> Tuesday. Kevin's swearing in day at Subic! God keep him strong in every way!
>
> Mary Lou, 27 May 1975

Nine weeks of boot camp began immediately, with banging on metal trash cans at four or five in the morning, and he was in Company 139 at San Diego. His high school diploma reached Kansas in a package eighteen months later.

At the end of June 1975 Ken and Mary Lou left the Philippines for the last time as resident missionaries. They had served twenty-four years.

From Ken's and Mary Lou's 1975 diaries, Ken's letter of 22 April 1975, Gordon's stories "Best Actor of the Year" (20 Aug 2026) and "Two Big Shots," and Kevin's memories.

After Boot Camp, San Diego, 1975

Kevin in his Navy peacoat, in a portrait he had taken after boot camp in San Diego in 1975, a few months after he was sworn in at Subic.

Kevin Engle's collection

Armed Forces Day

On Saturday 21 May 1988, at an outdoor ceremony in Dallas, Ken and Mary Lou found a piece of shade.

> Kevin's graduation — ML & I both with Kevin … B.A. in Psychology U of Texas at Dallas. Speaker — "Truth changes!" We sat in shade.
>
> Ken, 21 May 1988

Afterward Kevin drove them around the city: Braum's for lunch, the place where the President was shot, Dallas Theological Seminary. Mary Lou noted in the margin, *"Kevin drove on 'E' for long time. speedometer said 11111111."*

He was thirty. He had left Brent without walking with his class, finished high school in the Navy, and his diploma had come home in a parcel. His Abilene class crossed the field in May 1976 without him. *"This was Kevin's class,"* Ken wrote.

Mary Lou's index for the year gives it three words: *"21 - Kevin graduated."*

Printed at the top of Ken's page for that Saturday, by a diary company that had never heard of the family, are the words **Armed Forces Day**.

From Ken's and Mary Lou's 1988 diaries, in Gordon's story "Armed Forces Day."

ENTRY FOUR

When I Asked Cheryl to Marry Me

Coming soon

ADDED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Courting Days, 1985

Kevin and Cheryl while they were courting, on a winter visit to his parents in Abilene, Kansas, in 1985. It may be the only photograph of the two of them from their dating days. Abilene is also where Cheryl was laid to rest; her graveside service was held at Newbern Cemetery on 2 February 2026.

Kevin Engle's collection

Married, 19 July 1986

Cheryl on their wedding day, 19 July 1986, when she and Kevin were married at the First Baptist Church in Lewisville, Texas.
Kevin Engle's collection

Nearly Forty Years Later, 2024

Kevin and Cheryl out to dinner together in 2024, nearly forty years after their wedding day.

Kevin Engle's collection

Companion Books

Eight companion books stand beside the five volumes of the story.

In His Joy: The Life and Ministry of Ken Engle
Dad's own letters · 1951–1987 · his life and ministry

Herald of Christ: The Story of Rudy Ponce de Leon
San Juan, Rizal · 1951–1996

Grace Triumphant
the autobiography of Cyril H. Brooks · © 1985 Walterick Publishers

"Mary Lou, Mary Lou": The Story of Evelyn and Fred Balanag
Baguio City · 1968–2010

Cheryl
Cheryl Lyn Engle · her life, her music, her own words

Karen, Patrick, and Romblon: "Carrying the Vision"
keepm.org · the Emmaus app · Moments to Remember · Karen and Patrick

Family Stories and Friends
Friends of the work · family stories · family reference

> **Faithful Men: A Library of Christian Classics**, from PlymouthBrethren.org: Brethren writers and missionary lives, searchable by author, Scripture and topic. Open the library ↗

The Table of Contents for the whole series →

Every link in the series, in one place →

What Comes Next

This is one of eight companion books to *Lord, Give Us This Mountain*. The Table of Contents lists every book in the series.

> Keep them for Jesus for eternity.
>
> the prayer behind KEE Philippine Missions

Edition of 11 October 2026 · through Gordon's "Prays for Us Daily" (10 Oct 2026), "ML + I," "Two Candles" and "The Wedding," Ken's War Years letters of 1943-45, the 1950-51 letters, "Herald of Christ" (the story of Rudy Ponce de Leon), "Mary Lou, Mary Lou," the story of Evelyn Balanag with her photographs, "The Landlord and the Projectionist," and a list of hyperlinks