BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

19 PAGES

[Photo - see the full copy]

Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

VOLUME ONE · LANCASTER COUNTY ROOTS

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Volume One: Lancaster County Roots

Switzerland · Pennsylvania · Kansas · Ontario · England · 1743–1950

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Welcome to the Engle Family

This little book tells the story of one family: a Kansas farm boy named Ken Engle, a student nurse from Canonsburg named Mary Lou Leonard, and the six children they raised between the prairie and the Philippine islands. Behind them stand the Engles, Robsons, Leonards and Haineses, ordinary people who loved the Lord and wrote things down. Ahead of them are grandchildren and great-grandchildren who are still adding chapters.

From 1951 to 1975 Ken and Mary Lou served the Lord in the Philippines, and the work they began goes on today through keepm.org. These stories are where it all started.

Listen: Mom's Piano

A Book of Remembrance

Ken and Mary Lou Engle saved everything. Diaries kept almost every day from the 1940s until 2003. Several thousand letters. Some thirty thousand photographs and slides. Reel-to-reel tapes nobody had played in sixty years.

About twenty years ago Kevin and Gordon had most of it scanned. About ten years ago Kevin gave Gordon the hard copies so he could read them, and in 2026 Gordon began sending the family short true stories built from what he found. His archive now holds 4,669 documents, from 1719 to 2004, and more than 8,000 diary pages.

His rule is simple. The quotations are Mother and Daddy, word for word, with the diary and page cited. Nothing is invented. When a relative remembers it differently, the correction goes in.

> `For such a time as this.`
>
> Gordon, on why our parents saved everything (Esther 4:14)

Gordon says the diaries "are handing our own lives back to us a piece at a time, and a good half of what they hand back is something we would have sworn we already knew."

This series gathers those stories into one place, along with what the family has learned about where we came from. Gordon is still sending a story nearly every day, and each one will find its way in.

> `Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another… and a book of remembrance was written.`
>
> Malachi 3:16

PART ONE

Where We Came From

Switzerland and Pennsylvania · Kansas · Ontario · England

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

The Swiss Engels of Lancaster County

The Engle story in America begins with a Swiss family who sailed for Pennsylvania in the 1750s. Ken put it plainly in a 1952 letter: *"Pennsylvania Dutch, both grandpa and grandma… some call it Swiss and some German."* The family history says Swiss.

The best-documented early ancestor on the Engle line is **Ulrich Engel**, born in July 1743. He came over with his father, also named Ulrich, as a boy of about eleven, farmed in Donegal Township, Lancaster County, and married **Magdalena Bicksler**. Family tradition remembers him as the champion Maypole climber at Maytown. He was light enough to win, and he filled his pockets with ashes to rub on his hands for grip.

His gravestone still stands at the Reichs Church Cemetery near Marietta, carved in German:

> `Hier ruhen die Gebeine von ULRICH ENGEL … gestorben den 28sten September 1799 im 57ten Jahr seines Alters.`
>
> "Here rest the bones of Ulrich Engel… died the 28th of September 1799, in the 57th year of his age"

From Gordon's story "Ulrich Engle, Born 1743" (20 Aug 2026) and a 1952 letter of Ken's.

The River Brethren

Out of that same Lancaster County family came **Jacob "Yokeli" Engel**. Yokeli is the Pennsylvania Dutch pet name for Jacob. In the years around the American Revolution he became a founding leader of the River Brethren, the church known today as the **Brethren in Christ**. Kevin counts himself eight generations from Yokeli. Family records disagree on whether Yokeli was Ulrich's younger brother or his son. His birth, about 1753, points to brother.

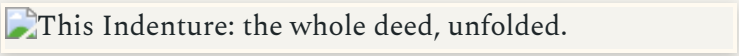
Two treasures from those years have come down to us. In 2009 Kevin found the **Engle Grove deed of 1789** for sale. It records sixteen acres in Donegal Township sold for 178 pounds by Henry and Anna Grove (Anna was Ulrich's sister) to Ulrich Engle Jr., signed with "their mark." Photos of the deed are on the next page. And Grandma Mabel Engle gave Kevin a German **Martyrs Mirror** printed in 1814, bound in wooden boards and leather and weighing about fifteen pounds.

The Pennsylvania kitchen came west with the family too. Kevin remembers that Great-Grandma Barbara Engle made cup cheese, and "you could smell it through the house for days." His cousin Lynette added that this might explain why their dads had trouble smelling things later in life.

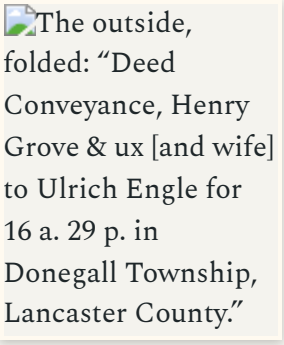
From Kevin's family papers and memories, and family emails.

The Engle Grove Deed, 1789

Here is the deed itself. Kevin found it on eBay in 2009 and bought it for fifty dollars. Dated 15 August 1789, it records that Henry Grove, yeoman, and Ann his wife, both of Donegal Township, Lancaster County, sold Ulrich Engle sixteen acres and twenty-nine perches there for £178 in gold and silver coin, the land "to have and to hold" for him and his heirs forever. Ann was Ulrich's sister. Neither she nor Henry could write, so each signed with a mark, an H and an A, beside a paper seal, before two witnesses.

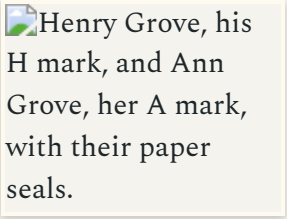


This Indenture: the whole deed, unfolded.

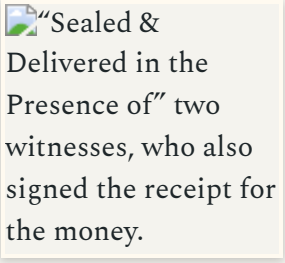


The outside, folded: "Deed Conveyance, Henry Grove & ux [and wife] to Ulrich Engle for 16 a. 29 p. in Donegall Township, Lancaster County."

Kevin Engle's collection



Henry Grove, his H mark, and Ann Grove, her A mark, with their paper seals.



"Sealed & Delivered in the Presence of" two witnesses, who also signed the receipt for the money.

West to Kansas

Around 1879 and 1880 a wave of Brethren in Christ families left Lancaster County for the prairie of Dickinson County, Kansas. Kevin's great-grandfather was among them. *"Kansas is where most of my people are,"* Kevin wrote in 2013.

Abilene's most famous son, Dwight D. Eisenhower, grew up in a River Brethren family that came out from Pennsylvania in the same migration. Our records show no kinship, only the same church roots and the same Kansas soil. Mary Lou noted the day in 1971 when the Eisenhower Museum was dedicated, with Mamie and the Johnsons in town.

Our line runs from **Harry Shelly Engle** and **Barbara Martin Engle** to their son **Grant Ercil Engle**, born 21 July 1899. Grant's uncle **Noah Martin** built the Grace and Truth Gospel Chapel in Abilene around 1918. The family worshipped there with the Plymouth Brethren for ninety years, and H. A. Ironside preached there in the early 1920s. The first wedding ever held in the chapel was Aunt Eloise's, in 1957. Its last meeting was in March 2010.

> The guy that built the chapel was Grandpa Engles Uncle, Noah Martin. The fellow who got saved (first among the Robson's), was Grandma Engle's (and Uncle Orvilles) dad, Robert A. Robson.
>
> Kevin, 2010

From family emails (Kevin, 2010 and 2013) and Mary Lou's 1971 diary.

Listen: Mom's Piano

Grant and Mabel

In September 1922 Grant Engle married **Mabel Emma Robson**. When he wrote his first letter asking her for a date, he spelled her name "Mable," the way his own sister spelled hers.

They farmed seven miles south of Abilene, and raised five children: **Ken** (1924), **Keith** (1929), **Eloise** (1935), **Elaine** (1938) and **Jan**. Keith later worked the place. Every November for about forty years the farm filled up with men and boys for the pheasant hunt.

Ken remembered a country school with three students in eight grades, 4-H chickens and pigs that lost money, and a Holstein calf that did better. His grandfather taught the Bible and once asked him whether he knew Jesus.

Gordon remembers Grandpa's big thumbs. *"Now if I could just get Grandpa to stop asking me 'IS THAT FELT' as he pinches me with those big thumbs…"*

In 1980 Grant and Mabel gave up the house and moved into Brown's Memorial Home in Abilene, where Ken had held services for years. *"It means more now that the folks are there,"* he wrote. When Grant turned ninety in July 1989, the party was at Brown's, and the family went up to his room in shifts.

From Ken's 1973 testimony tape, his letters, and Gordon's story "He Made Quite a Hit" (29 Sep 2026).

The Robsons

Grandma Mabel's people came to Kansas from Ontario. **John Ross Robson** and **Catharine Broadfoot Robson** had ten children; Albert, the youngest, was the only one born in Kansas. John's mother, **Amy Graham Robson**, came along in 1876 and lived about ten years near Abilene. Aunt Eloise kept a large photo of Catharine in her bedroom.

Their son **Robert Alexander Robson**, our great-grandfather, married **Cora Eva**. Her father, **Henry Eva**, was a Civil War veteran; he and his wife Hester are buried in the Abilene cemetery.

> I remember my mother telling me that her father loved to dance and gave that up when he was converted… I do believe he was saved under the message from H.A. Ironside.
>
> Aunt Eloise, 2014

Robert became one of the leading brothers at Grace and Truth Chapel. Kevin believes Grandma Engle and Ken "inherited his godly disposition."

Cora died in 1935, while Mabel was carrying Eloise. Grandma Robson was a little superstitious and thought an expectant mother should not be near the dying, so Mabel never told her about the baby. *"I wish I had ask more questions when I had the chance,"* Eloise wrote.

The Robson cousins still gather in Abilene on the first Sunday of August. In 2017 two Winslow cousins came in kilts of the Gunn tartan.

From family emails, among them Aunt Eloise's of 2014.

Robson Aunts and Uncles

Robert and Cora's children were **Mabel** (our grandmother), **Roberta**, **Harry**, **Orville**, **Cleason** and **Lela**. Lela died as a toddler. Cleason died as a young man. Ken always said *"Uncle Cleason was my favorite uncle."*

Roberta married **Wendell Koons**. Their eldest son, **Alvin Dean Koons**, became a U.S. Navy chaplain. Ken was his first cousin, and Kevin recalls hearing that Ken led Alvin to the Lord when they were boys. Alvin turns up again in the Philippines in 1966, carrying a flute (Volume Two).

Uncle Orville, the youngest, married **Aunt Lois**, whose bread, sticky cinnamon rolls and fudge are still talked about. A cousin remembers that Lois *"used to wash my hair in the sink and I played the pump organ."*

The Robson farmhouse near Abilene, where Mabel and her brothers and sisters grew up and Uncle Orville lived for many years, is back in the family. The family also keeps Mabel's eighth-grade graduation certificate and two of her childhood journals.

Kevin is the family's unofficial Robson historian. He started the RobsonHistory blog in 2008.

From family emails and Kevin's RobsonHistory blog.

The Haineses

Mary Lou's mother's people came from England. **Ernest G. Haines**, "E. G.," was born about 1871, a butcher's son who became a bookkeeper and loved figures. He married **Alice Bush**. They had twin girls, **Freda** and **Mary**, and a daughter they named **Avril**, the French word for April, because she was born in April, on the 26th, in 1902.

About 1908 the family crossed to America, first to Cincinnati and then to Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh. Little Mary died at sixteen. Alice was crippled by arthritis in later years, and E. G. wheeled her to church. He loved the hymn "Rise, My Soul! Behold 'Tis Jesus."

Freda studied at Moody and married **Rev. George Bates**. Their daughter Ruth Elaine was Mary Lou's "little buddy."

Granddaddy Haines lived long enough to see great-grandchildren from Manila. Ken read Scripture with him the week before he died, at the turn of 1961, and spoke at his funeral.

> `Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.`
>
> the verse Ken shared with Granddaddy Haines (1 Samuel 7:12)

From family letters and emails.

Listen: Mom's Piano

The Leonards

John Reihner Leonard was born on Christmas Day 1899 in Washington, Pennsylvania, the son of Frank and Harriet Leonard. In September 1926 he married Avril Haines at First Baptist Church in Canonsburg. He ran a plant, bought and sold property and trucks, and between 1937 and 1944 shot twenty-five reels of home movies. Gordon has put them on video. In them Mary Lou grows from seven to about fourteen, playing the trombone.

In October 1952, the week Mary Lou sailed for Manila, John wrote her a letter that Gordon calls "The Hospital for Somnambulists." Avril had been sleepwalking in broad daylight and turned her bad ankle. Thirteen-year-old Betsy had leaned on the cellar door and tumbled all the way down.

> So you can see, between my being Supt of Hospital for somnambulists, cook & shipper, I am busy.
>
> John Leonard to Mary Lou, October 1952

> I am buying Mother a new typewriter like Ginny's because she likes to type letters & she has so many to write.
>
> the same letter

She did have many to write. Avril wrote for thirty-seven more years. Five hundred twenty-one of her letters survive, more than anyone's in the archive except Ken's and Mary Lou's.

John Leonard died on 1 August 1964, at sixty-four. Avril lived until 1 October 1989 and died at eighty-seven.

From John Leonard's letter of October 1952, in Gordon's story "The Hospital for Somnambulists" (8 Sep 2026).

Listen: Mom's Piano

Ginny, Mary Lou, Paul and Betsy

John and Avril raised four children in Canonsburg. **Mary Lou** (1930–2003), our mother, was the second.

Virginia "**Ginny**" (1927–1988) trained as a nurse in New York. Widowed on her honeymoon in 1950, she went to the Belgian Congo as a missionary nurse for about twelve years and was twice evacuated by the British Army. Back home she headed the student health center at Moody Bible Institute and married Paul Moldenhauer.

Paul Ernest Leonard (1933–2026) earned his doctorate at Manchester under F. F. Bruce, served on the NIV translation committee, taught New Testament at Trinity, and trained counselors for Billy Graham's New York crusade. As an Army chaplain and colonel he was called up for the Gulf War in 1991. Ken's diary said "To Saudi Arabia." Aunt Betsy corrected Gordon in 2026: Paul served the wounded at Landstuhl, Germany. Paul married **Carol Schmidt** of Kansas in 1957, and in seventy years of diaries they are always "Paul & Carol," like a law firm.

Betsy Jane, the youngest, married **Carl Armerding**, who taught at Regent College in Vancouver and helped translate Judges for the New Living Translation.

In 1978 the four children took turns caring for their mother, a month each.

> `Ginny (April) Betsy (May) Paul (June), ML July.`
>
> Ken's diary, 1978

The rota should have had a fifth name. Carol, the daughter-in-law, quietly took her turns too.

From Ken's 1978 diary and Gordon's stories about the Leonards, Aug–Sep 2026.

The Family Tree

ENGLE · Ulrich Engel (1743–1799) m. Magdalena Bicksler · Lancaster Co., PA … Harry Shelly Engle (d. 1956) m. Barbara Martin

ROBSON · John Ross Robson m. Catharine Broadfoot · Ontario → Kansas Robert Alexander Robson m. Cora Eva

Grant Ercil Engle 1899–1992
m. 1922

Mabel Emma Robson
d. about 1983

Ken · Keith (m. Cleo Barten) · Eloise (m. Kevin Dyer) · Elaine (m. Charlie Corkill) · Jan (m. Ken Horst)

HAINES · Ernest G. Haines (b. ~1871, England) m. Alice Bush

LEONARD · Frank Leonard (1862–1952) m. Harriet

John Reihner Leonard 1899–1964
m. 1926

Avril Haines
1902–1989

Virginia (m. Paul Moldenhauer) · Mary Lou · Paul (m. Carol Schmidt) · Betsy (m. Carl Armerding)

Kenneth Ercil Engle
9 Nov 1924 – 5 Nov 2009

Mary Louise Leonard
20 Jul 1930 – 12 Apr 2003

married 26 April 1953 · San Juan Gospel Hall, Manila

Becky · Karen · Kevin · Stan · Gordon · Doug

Companion Books

Seven 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

"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

Kevin's Recollections
Kevin Engle · in his own words · Stewards Foundation · In Dad's Own Words

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

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Every link in the series, in one place →

Sources

Gordon's stories used in this volume: Ulrich Engle, Born 1743 · The Hospital for Somnambulists · Ginny April, Betsy May, Paul June · Where the Wounded Came · The One He Never Had to Perform · He Made Quite a Hit · Aunt Eloise, two stories. Also family letters from 2008–2026 and Ken's 1973 testimony tape.

Engle history online: Engle History and Family Records of Dauphin and Lancaster Counties · Ulrich Engel and Anna Brechtbühl · Rev. Jacob Engle (1753–1833) on FamilySearch · The Brethren in Christ.

Graves on Find a Grave: Ulrich Engel (1711–1757) · Anna Brechtbühl Engel (1715–1764) · Ulrich Engel (1743–1799) · Anna Engel Grove (1741–1805) · Elder Jacob “Yokeli” Engel (1753–1833) · Veronica “Fannie” Schock Engel (1750–1816).

What Comes Next

Volume Two, *The Call to the Philippines*, continues the story.

> 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

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Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

VOLUME TWO · THE CALL TO THE PHILIPPINES

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Volume Two: The Call to the Philippines

A farm boy, a tail gunner, a nurse from Canonsburg, and the islands · 1924–1967

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PART ONE

The War Years

A Kansas farm boy in the Army Air Forces, 1943–1945

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Karen and Patrick on Romblon

A Farm Boy and a Radio

Kenneth Ercil Engle was born on 9 November 1924, the eldest of Grant and Mabel's five. He was saved at about nine years old through John 6:37: *"Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."* Years later he put it this way: "He doesn't turn anybody away."

An FFA trip to Chicago took the farm boy to two places he never forgot. One was Wrigley Field. He was a Cubs fan all his life. The other was Moody Bible Institute, whose radio program he had heard at home. He enrolled.

He liked to open his testimony with a joke: *"I'm not related to Marx and Engels."*

Ken came from a family background of conscientious objectors, but he felt led to serve. That conviction ran deep in the family. Kevin believes that his great-great-grandfather, John M. Engle (Ken's great-grandfather), was a conscientious objector who did not serve in the Civil War. Soon after he moved west from Lancaster County, John gave the land for Newbern Cemetery, a few miles south of Abilene, Kansas, what we know as the "Engle Burying Ground." Ken was sworn into the Army on 11 August 1943 at Fort Leavenworth and trained as an Air Corps cadet at Henderson State in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, flying Piper Cubs. Then the whole class was cut.

> `Men, you were washed out. Without prejudice for the convenience of the government.`
>
> as Ken remembered it, 1973

From Ken's 1973 testimony tape and Kevin's family research.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Tail Gunner

He went to gunnery school at Harlingen, Texas. *"My arm was like hamburger from the recoil of the gun. I got enough shooting."*

Ken joined a B-24 Liberator crew at Walla Walla, Washington. Orders opened in flight sent them to Nadzab, New Guinea, and the **90th Bomb Group, the "Jolly Rogers,"** 319th Bomb Squadron. He flew as tail gunner from Nadzab, then from Mindoro in the Philippines, on missions as long as fourteen hours. He flew sixteen combat missions over the Pacific. He kept a journal he called "My Life in the Service."

On Mindoro in March 1945 he met an educated young Filipino named Vicente, and something turned in him. Ken had prayed for China at Moody. Now the burden became the Philippines. On 4 March 1945 he prayed for a church at San Jose, Mindoro.

He was discharged on 19 June 1945 and quietly kept that day every year afterward. In 1979 he wrote to Stan, *"I got out of the Army Air Corps 34 years ago today!"*

After a restless year on the farm he went back to Moody and became an announcer on WMBI.

In December 2004, at eighty, Ken mailed copies of his war journal to Kevin.

> `KLE — sent copies of my Journal WWII etc. … Thankful for my childrens calls.`
>
> Ken's diary, 3 December 2004

From Ken's 1973 testimony tape, his 1979 letter to Stan, and his 2004 diary.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Pvt. Engle Reporting

The War Years pages are drawn from the 272 letters Ken wrote home or received from 1943 to 1945, typed up by the family in 2007, and from the original scans in Gordon's archive.

Ken was sworn in on 11 August 1943. A year later he wrote, *"It was just one year ago this afternoon that I was sworn into the army."* Basic training was at Sheppard Field, Wichita Falls, Texas.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Grandpa and Grandma, 22 September 1943

On 5 October he stood before the Aviation Cadet Examining Board. The family's old conscientious-objector question came up at once.

> 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.
>
> Ken to the folks, 5 October 1943

On Sundays he went out with the Baptist Training Union team to little churches around Wichita Falls, and he preached so often that he wrote home twice, *"They think I'm a Baptist and don't know it."* After a 32-mile night hike almost to Oklahoma he reported, *"Well I'm still alive,"* and added, *"The Lord really helped me prepare my talk as I walked along."*

A physical on 12 October put him in Class 2, navigator and bombardier, because his eyes tested 20/25. *"This is an answer to prayer because I wanted to be a navigator."*

"What Ever Made You Want to Fly?"

That November Ken went to the 66th College Training Detachment at Henderson State Teachers College in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. In February 1944 the Engle family appeared in *LIFE* magazine.

> Today the fellows brought back the "Life" magazine. They think my Mother pretty good looking.
>
> Ken, 13 February 1944

His English teacher gave him a 95. *"I imagine you wonder how I get 95 in English – Well he noticed my picture in Life – See."* Fan mail followed. *"P.S. I don't know what to think of fan mail."*

His plane was to be a Piper Cub. He took his first flight on 13 March 1944.

> 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.
>
> Ken, 14 March 1944

On 24 March he and his instructor nearly turned in front of a landing AT-10. *"Some of the fellows say it only missed us by about 3 ft. We didn't even know it was behind us."*

On 9 April he bought the book that became his war journal: *"I bought a little book the other day "My life in the Service" When I get it all fixed up I'll probably send it home."* He asked, *"Are you saving all my letters and pictures I send home. I hope so."* They did. This chapter is the proof.

"But Oh April 1st"

On 1 April 1944 the Army closed the cadet program to draftees.

> 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.
>
> Ken to the folks, 1 April 1944

Of fifty pre-cadets, six went on. Ken signed one letter *"Ex Cadet – now (G.I. Joe)."* On 17 April the orders came: flexible gunnery school at Harlingen, Texas, *"right down by the gulf. … This may mean overseas duty soon so be prepared."*

> 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.
>
> Ken, Harlingen, 22 April 1944

On Father's Day he wrote his dad from the range. *"Its Father's day and about the first one I've missed for a few years. … I'm going to miss being there for harvest."* He had fired the .50 caliber for the first time: *"After once firing that gun you learn to respect it."* He signed it, *"P.S. I believe I've got the best Dad in the world."*

At Lemoore, California, in July, he and two buddies hitchhiked to church in Hanford and found that the pastor and his wife were Moody graduates. *"It was great the way the Lord planned the week end."*

Crew #243

In August 1944 Ken went to Walla Walla, Washington, for B-24 crew training.

> 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.
>
> Ken, 11 August 1944

On 28 September, on a training flight, someone came back and told him they wanted him up front.

> 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.
>
> Ken, 28 September 1944

On 18 October, after a gospel program at the base chapel: *"Our prayers have been answered. … One fellow Elijah Blevins was saved."*

After a last furlough at home, and a first look at his new baby sister, Jane Ann, he rode back on a crowded train: *"Standing room only – Well I went out between the cars as I left Abilene and sang some choruses. … That was a great furlough Thanks to the Lord."*

> P.S. Please pray that the Lord will prepare me for combat physically, mentally, spiritually etc. (In all ways)
>
> Ken to his mother, 7 November 1944

Island Hopping

At Hamilton Field, California, the crew was given a new B-24. *"Boy she's really great – all of the latest equipment."* On guard duty he wrote home *"from the ole B-24 I'm using the radio man's desk."* About 23 November they flew out over the Pacific.

> When a person's above the clouds there with only water below you realize even more how much your dependent on God.
>
> Ken, 24 November 1944

They stopped at Tarawa, where *"some of the most bitter fighting of the war took place."* He wrote, *"The Lord just seems to be very close to me as a result of your prayers. I feel much different about going than I thought I would."* On 1 December they landed at Nadzab, New Guinea. *"I've got some real stories to tell but I suppose the censor wouldn't appreciate taking it all out so I'll save it until I get home."*

> 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.
>
> Ken to his dad, 17 December 1944

On 23 December about twenty letters came at once. *"Say you should have seen the fellows when I told them about Josie's new heifer calf. They were all busy reading their letters and thought something must be wrong with me."* Christmas was *"a warm Christmas day in New Guinea,"* with a Baptist chaplain from Kansas, *"good combination."*

"Hello from Jolly Rogers!"

At the end of December 1944 Stanley's crew joined the 90th Bomb Group, the Jolly Rogers, 319th Squadron. Ken flew in the tail as assistant radio operator and gunner.

> 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.
>
> Ken to his dad, 28 December 1944

He sent home the names of the crew, Lt. Loren Stanley's, and called it *"Best Crew in the World."*

> 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.
>
> Ken to Keith, 3 January 1945

On 1 February his pilot gave him a New Testament with a golden metal cover. *"I took off the cover and put it on my New Testament. It's not the bullet protection that I need but God's protection."*

On 10 February he wrote his dad from the tail, on the way back from a strike.

> 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)
>
> Ken, 10 February 1945

Somewhere in the Philippines

By February 1945 the Jolly Rogers flew from Mindoro. On 20 February Ken went to *"a service to thank God for the liberation of the Philippines. It was asked by General Mac Arthur."* He signed one letter *"From the Philipino Kid."*

> 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.
>
> Ken to Keith, 15 February 1945

He counted his missions by his brother's and sisters' ages. On 28 February: *"I now am one behind (14) Keith's age 15."*

> We completed a rough mission over Formosa today. Truly Ps. 23:4 was again proved to me. Because we were in that valley.
>
> Ken to his mother, 3 March 1945

The next day, 4 March, he came from the chapel, where there had been a memorial service *"for the boys we've lost lately."* That is the day Gordon's records show him praying for a church at San Jose, Mindoro.

On 5 March he wrote his baby sister Jane Ann about the future. He pictured himself *"on W.M.B.I. with me as anouncer … a Philippine dream but it has possibilities!"* Six years later he was on the radio in Manila.

From the hospital that month he added, *"I'm beginning to see why missionaries once there on the field go back. These people are a very interesting people and very friendly."*

Listen: Moments to Remember

PART TWO

Ken and Mary Lou

A girl from Canonsburg, and a letter that crossed the Pacific

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

The Girl from Canonsburg

Mary Louise Leonard was born on 20 July 1930 in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. Her own memoir records her mother's first reaction: *"What an ugly baby!"* Aunt Freda, the twin, answered, *"Why no, she's cute!"*

She grew up with Laddie the collie, played piano by ear and trombone in the band, and gave her life to Christ in 1942. On 31 August 1948 she arrived in Chicago to train as a nurse at West Suburban Hospital. That fall she went to hear Dr. Ironside. In 1949 she was received into fellowship at Austin Gospel Hall.

She met Ken in children's work at a Chicago chapel. Their courtship began in the summer of 1950, the family says, on a moonlight cruise. Her own timeline adds two entries in December 1950:

> ```
> Dec 11, 1950 - cedar chest (from Ken)
> Dec 14, 1950 - To Abilene - Texas Chief (To
> see Ken)
> ```
>
> Mary Lou's timeline

Two months later Ken sailed for the Philippines without her.

From Mary Lou's own memoir and timeline.

Listen: Mom's Piano

The Prayer Meeting at Moody

1949 or 1950

When Ken was a student at Moody Bible Institute, he belonged to a prayer group that met to pray for China. That burden went back to his first year at Moody, when Harry Liu, a Chinese student, led a prayer meeting for China (see A Missionary from China). At the same time he had been writing back and forth with Cyril Brooks in the Philippines, and he was praying about whether the Lord wanted him there.

One night Ken asked some of the other Moody students to join him for an all-night prayer meeting. They prayed through until morning.

The next morning Ken went to his mailbox. Inside was a letter from Cyril Brooks, inviting him to come to the Philippines as a missionary. That letter had been on a ship for thirty days. It reached him the very morning after he had spent the night asking God for direction.

God had sent the answer a month before Ken finished asking for it.

“And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.”

Isaiah 65:24

From Kevin Engle’s recollections

Meet You at Taps

In August 1950 Ken left Chicago for the family farm in Kansas. He and Mary Lou had spent one last week together, and he called it *"the climax to my four years in Chicago."* He wrote from the farm with an idea.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, August 1950

He signed off *"Meet you at taps,"* and for months afterward that was their good night.

Most of August Ken taught at Kansas Bible Camp near Wichita. The campers noticed how often the mail brought him letters from Chicago, and they did not let it go. One morning at breakfast the whole dining hall sang it at him:

> Get your mind off Mary Lou, Mr. Engle.
>
> the campers, Kansas Bible Camp, August 1950

"Whata week!" he wrote on a postcard. *"Several professed to be saved."*

Mary Lou wrote back nearly every day from West Suburban, where she was about to become a senior student nurse. Ken confessed that his heart went *"pitter – patter every time I get a letter from Oak Park."* On 1 September twenty-four red roses arrived from Kansas to go with her new white uniform.

Listen: Mom's Piano

Thanksgiving, 1950

Ken's visa for the Philippines had been a worry for months, and it was far from certain. The day before Thanksgiving, word came from Manila: the immigration office had recommended that it be granted. On Thanksgiving afternoon at the farm, waiting for the turkey, Ken wrote Mary Lou his list.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, Thanksgiving, 23 November 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.
>
> the same letter

Then his parents. *"Certainly He couldn't have given me better parents."*

He signed it *"Till Taps To-nite."*

The plan was now clear, and it was a hard one. Ken would go first. Mary Lou would finish nursing school and her courses at Wheaton, and they were ready to wait as long as three years. Ken told his old campers the news in a Christmas prayer letter: *"Also pray for me as I learn a new language. The name of the language is TAGALOG."*

Maganda

Ken sailed from San Francisco on 18 February 1951 aboard the freighter *California Bear*, the only passenger. After loading cargo at Puget Sound, the ship left for the Philippines on the 22nd, and on 14 March it docked at San Fernando, on Luzon. Ken mailed Mary Lou a letter with five dollars in it. She was to mail his prayer letters in the States as his *"little secretary,"* and spend the rest on silverware for the cedar chest. Two nights later the ship anchored in Manila Bay. Early the next morning Cyril and Mrs. Brooks were waiting to bring him ashore.

> First, I'll take to say that it's been above and beyond anything I ever dreamed of - like my Mary Lou.
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, San Juan, 20 March 1951

The assembly welcomed him on Mrs. Dayton's lawn and gave him a Tagalog Bible. *"I was so thrilled I could hardly say anything."* That Monday he opened letters for the Bible School of the Air, which had more than 2,000 students, and that night Mr. Brooks interviewed him on DZAS. In his first Tagalog lesson he learned *maganda*, beautiful. *"I thought right away of Mary Lou."*

His airmail letter reached Chicago in four days.

> Ken, I like the idea of being your secretary. There's no-one I'd rather be secretary to, for the rest of my life.
>
> Mary Lou to Ken, 19 March 1951

Seven weeks later he wrote the *"v. important letter."*

From Ken and Mary Lou's letters to each other, 1950–51.

Listen: Moments to Remember

The Letter She Lost

In Manila on Tuesday 8 May 1951, Ken wrote up an ordinary day: the piano tuned, curry and rice ("Yum Yum"), supper with friends. Twice he mentioned a *"v. important letter,"* underlined in red. At the foot of the page he added a red asterisk and three words: **Proposal to ML.**

In Chicago, Mary Lou was a student nurse who cleaned and babysat for the Clarksons between hospital shifts.

> LOST AN UNOPENED LETTER FROM KEN TODAY ON WAY TO CLARKSONS. AM NOT WORRYING ABOUT IT
>
> Mary Lou, 10 May 1951

It came back the next day; someone had picked it up. Which letter it was, nobody knows. Then, on the 12th:

> TODAY HAS BEEN A GREAT ONE!!!! KEN ASKED ME TO MARRY HIM!!! I'VE BEEN WALKING ON CLOUDS ALL DAY… TOOK ME 2 HR 15min TO SEND MY ANSWER "YES". HOW I LOVE HIM!!!
>
> Mary Lou, 12 May 1951

> 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.
>
> Ken, 18 May 1951

On 24 May a song went out over DZAS radio for "Kenny," and on 7 June there was a diamond.

From Ken's and Mary Lou's diaries for May 1951, and Gordon's story "The Letter She Lost" (1 Oct 2026).

Wilt Thou Go with This Man?

A year later, on the anniversary of his proposal, Ken read Genesis 24, the story of Rebekah agreeing to go to a husband she had never seen in a far country. He called it *"very appropriate."*

> Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.
>
> Genesis 24:58

In the first week of October 1952, John Leonard drove his daughter to New York. She sailed on the **SS California Bear**. Fifty people stood on the pier and sang, and the ship moved out at six in the evening. Within days her sister Ginny left for the Congo.

Ken Engle and Mary Lou Leonard were married on Sunday 26 April 1953, at six in the evening, at San Juan Gospel Hall in Manila. The typed ceremony script still exists, stage directions and all: *"When wedding party is fully in place: Let us pray."* So does the hometown clipping: "Mary Lou Leonard Weds Kansas Man In Philippines." They honeymooned in Baguio, the cool pine city in the mountains. Fourteen years later it would become home.

At their twenty-fifth anniversary in 1978, Grandma made a white cake with "25" on every slice. Ken slipped a new gold band on Mary Lou's finger for the camera. Both had forgotten their glasses, so everyone held theirs out, and Ken borrowed Uncle Orville's.

From Ken's 1952 diary, John Leonard's letter of October 1952, the wedding script and a hometown newspaper clipping.

San Juan Gospel Hall

[Photo - see the full copy]

San Juan Gospel Hall, Manila, where Ken and Mary Lou were married on 26 April 1953. Kevin believes the man in white in the doorway, facing away, is Dad.
Kevin Engle’s collection

PART THREE

The Philippine Years

1951–1967 · Manila · Binangonan

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

Manila and the Bible School of the Air

Ken reached the Philippines early in 1951, commended to the work under Cyril "Dad" Brooks, and lived with the Brooks family in San Juan. Two days after he landed he was on the air at DZAS with the **Bible School of the Air**. He held a Friday Bible class for Navy men at Sangley Point, helped with the GI Gospel Hour, and met Jesse Miller, a survivor of the Bataan Death March.

Over the years Ken made more than a thousand radio programs; Volume Five, *Moments of Melody*, tells that story.

Ken and Mary Lou lived by faith, as the Brethren did. They drew no salary and never asked anyone for money. They told their needs to God alone, the way George Müller had.

> 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.
>
> Ken, 1973

His first prayer cards in 1951 were drawn and printed by John Sweemer of Wheaton. One of his first gifts on the field came from Ed McCully, who had invited Ken to preach at Wauwatosa in the 1940s and sent fifty dollars in 1951. McCully was later martyred in Ecuador in 1956.

From Ken's 1973 testimony tape and his letters.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Eloise's Ten Dollars

By June 1954 Ken and Mary Lou had a baby daughter, **Becky**, and the money had run out.

> 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.
>
> Ken, Friday 18 June 1954

That same day the mail brought word of fifty dollars on its way from the Beech Street assembly, and ten dollars from Ken's sister **Eloise**. She was eighteen, in nurse's training in Kansas City, and earned no salary. Mail took weeks to cross the Pacific, so she had sent it before anyone knew they were short.

> Again at just the right time He sent it in. We thank Him for each such experience.
>
> Ken, 18 June 1954

A year later Eloise was washing the farmhouse kitchen floor when she told her mother she wanted to go to Bible school, and maybe to the Philippines to help Ken and Mary Lou. Grandma Mabel said:

> Oh no. I've given one to the field. I can't give two.
>
> as Uncle Kevin Dyer remembers Eloise telling it

Mabel came around: *"I won't stand in your way."* Eloise went to Emmaus Bible School, met an Australian student named **Kevin Dyer**, and married him on 31 August 1957, the first wedding ever held in Grace and Truth Chapel. The night before, in Manila, Ken preached a sermon called "The God That Is Enough."

From Ken's 1954 diary and Gordon's "Aunt Eloise" stories (31 Aug 2026).

Listen: Mom's Piano

Ships, Furloughs and Five Children

The family grew on the field and on the ocean between.

- **Becky** was born in 1954 and **Karen** in 1955, both in the Philippines.
- In December 1956 they sailed from San Francisco on the *City of Poona*. Mary Lou and Karen were seasick, and Ken prayed the prayer of Jabez. They reached Manila's Pier 13 on 10 January 1957.
- **Kevin** was born in Manila in 1957. He was named after Uncle Kevin Dyer.
- **Stan** arrived in 1959, weighing ten pounds.
- They sailed home on the *Orcades* in 1960 and back on the *Anna Bakke* in 1961.
- On furlough in 1963 Ken taught Old Testament at Emmaus Bible School.
- **Gordon** was born in 1964 in Illinois. He was the only one of the first five born in the States.

Grandfather John Leonard drove all night from Pennsylvania for Gordon's arrival. Two weeks later he recorded a tape letter to friends. Gordon played it in 2026 for the first time in sixty-two years.

> I brought Mother Leonard out two weeks ago for the arrival of the new [grandson] of the Engle family, a nice healthy child. And now I am back here to take mother back home with me.
>
> John Leonard, 1964

Avril added, *"Perhaps he's the prettiest one of them all so far."* It is the last known recording of John's voice. He died that August.

Teach Others Also

On Saturday 27 June 1959 Uncle Kevin and Aunt Eloise Dyer landed late at Manila for a month's visit. Eloise was expecting. Ken's diary that day reads, *"The big day… Home for cherry pie. Wonderful to have them here."*

While Eloise ironed the Engle children's clothes upstairs, Uncle Kevin remembers, "Ken and I were off in a room."

> `Kevin & I worked on "Teach Others."`
>
> Ken, Friday 10 July 1959

They were writing **TOP, the Teach Others Program**, from 2 Timothy 2:2: *"The things that thou hast heard of me… the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."* New believers would be taught to teach. Ken cut the stencil that fall, and Stan was born soon after. TOP was still running, much changed, in 1970.

In 1959 Ken listed the friends who had been an "Oasis in desert" to him. Kevin and Eloise were number one.

Asked about it in 2026, Uncle Kevin said, *"Your dad was instrumental in coming up with that idea, and he put it on me to do it, and I don't know what I did."*

From Ken's 1959 diary and Gordon's story "Teach Others Also" (2 Oct 2026), with Uncle Kevin Dyer's memories.

Heaven Came Down

On 17 March 1966 Ken wrote across the top of his diary page, *"15 years since coming to Philippines as a missionary."*

The next week Mrs. Cathy Hamilton rode out with him to **Binangonan**, a fishing town on Laguna de Bay. In the 1930s her father, Mr. Shepherd of the Bible Society, had led a Mr. Aguilar to the Lord in a tuberculosis sanitarium. Brother Aguilar went on to win many in Binangonan.

> A real testimony of what one man won to the Lord can do… May I reach some like this for Thee.
>
> Ken, 23 March 1966

On Sunday 27 March, with eight-year-old Kevin along, the chapel choir sang "Heaven Came Down." Then, at a rocky point on the lake, six people were baptized. A young man named Lino had helped five of them, and two were his own mother and sister.

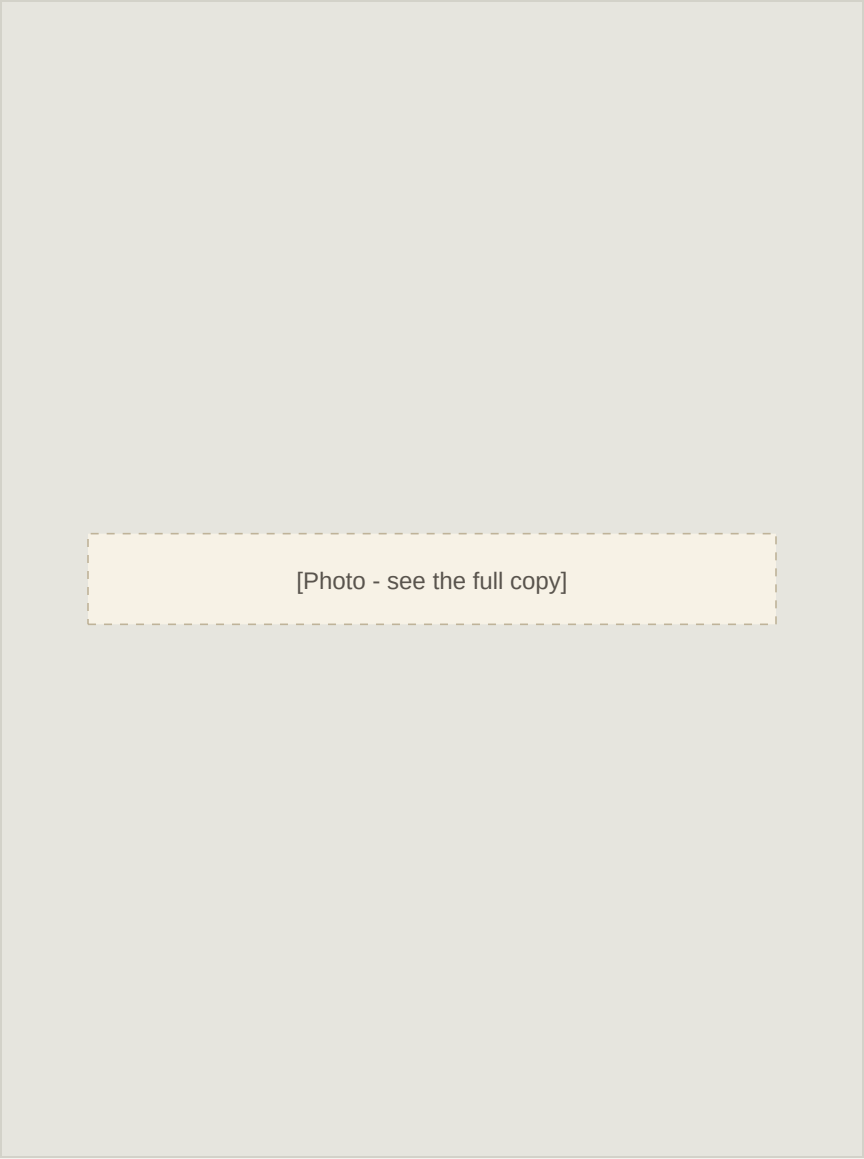
> So there are several spiritual generations which go back to that original witness in a hospital in the 1930's. When we sow the Word, we surely do not know what the eternal results will be.
>
> Ken to Bro. Smart, 24 March 1966

Mary Lou trained the Binangonan young people to sing. "Heaven Came Down" became four-year-old Gordon's favorite song.

From Ken's 1966 diary and letters, and Gordon's story "Heaven Came Down" (4 Oct 2026).

Listen: Mom's Piano

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

What He Carried

In 1966 Ken went looking for a flute for Karen's eleventh birthday. His first cousin **Alvin Koons**, the Navy chaplain, was living in Hong Kong.

> `Checked on flutes. Wrote Alvin.`
>
> Ken, 14 March 1966

Alvin and his wife Bobbie came for twenty days that spring. He preached at Binangonan with a few words in Chinese, and he carried the flute.

> `Karen's birthday. Recd a flute from us. Thrilled`
>
> Ken, 1966

On his last day Alvin gave Karen her first lesson. Two weeks later she began lessons with Mrs. Thordis Zabarte of the Manila Symphony. *"We are so thankful for such good teachers,"* Ken wrote. In November 1968, at thirteen, she played "Beneath the Cross" at the summer house of Mrs. Lopez, wife of the Vice President of the Philippines. Back in Kansas she marched in the Abilene High band until 1973. Becky played the violin, and the girls often played at meetings where Ken spoke.

From Ken's 1966 diary and Gordon's stories "What He Carried" (27 Aug 2026) and "Thrilled" (17 Sep 2026).

Black Thursday

Faith was tested too. By the spring of 1967 Ken had been in the Philippines sixteen years, and Mary Lou was not well. On 25 April her doctor suggested a cooler climate, maybe Baguio, the pine city in the mountains where they had honeymooned.

> He mentioned Baguio. We just smiling — felt it was out of the question
>
> Ken, 25 April 1967

They spent a holiday hunting for a house in Baguio and found nothing. On Thursday 25 May, running errands in town, Ken made a hard decision.

> Decision on way to town — pressure great. Must leave field this summer. Hard decision — not sure of leading.
>
> Ken, 25 May 1967

He squeezed one more word in above the line: *Tears.* On the memo page at the back of the diary he wrote, *"May 25 — Black Thursday."*

But back on the April page, in the same pen, he had added four words:

> — but see May 26!
>
> Ken's diary

From Ken's 1967 diary and Gordon's story "Black Thursday" (2 Oct 2026).

Companion Books

Seven 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

"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

Kevin's Recollections
Kevin Engle · in his own words · Stewards Foundation · In Dad's Own Words

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

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Every link in the series, in one place →

Sources

Gordon's stories used in this volume: Eloise $10 · I Can't Give Two · On the Same Day · Two Weeks in April · The Journal, Sent · What He Carried · Thrilled · Heavenly Sunshine · The Witness · The Letter She Lost · Teach Others Also · Black Thursday · Heaven Came Down. Also Ken's 1973 testimony tape, Mary Lou's memoir and timeline, and family letters. The War Years pages, from "Pvt. Engle Reporting" to "Somewhere in the Philippines," draw on the letters Ken wrote home or received from 1943 to 1945 (Engle Letters, 2007 transcription project). The pages "Meet You at Taps," "Thanksgiving, 1950" and "Maganda" draw on Ken and Mary Lou's letters of 1950–51 (Engle Letters, 2007 transcription project).

What Comes Next

Volume Three, *Malvar Street, Baguio City*, continues the story.

> 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

BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

48 PAGES

[Photo - see the full copy]

Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

VOLUME THREE · MALVAR STREET, BAGUIO CITY

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Volume Three: Malvar Street, Baguio City

The Malvar years, Brent School and the gate at Subic · 1967–1975

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PART ONE

The Malvar Years

1967–1975 · 55 Malvar Street · Aurora Hill · Baguio City

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

A High Mountain Apart

Friday 26 May 1967 was supposed to be the family's last day out before driving down to Manila to pack. All seven went to Burnham Park and Mines View. On the way they stopped at the OMF guest house to invite friends to tea. Nobody was home.

As they stood in the driveway, a Dr. dela Rosa pulled in behind them. He had come to tell the OMF lady that he had places to rent. He told Ken about a house with four bedrooms on Malvar Street.

"We liked what we saw," Ken wrote. Mary Lou put it better: "We loved it!"

> Agreement reached — We had prayed much. Felt the Lord gave us the house.
>
> Ken, 26 May 1967

> If we had not we'd never have met Dr. Dela Rosa.
>
> Mary Lou's memoir

Ken called it *"one of the greatest changes of area in my life."* At the top of that day's page, in a different pen, he noted that three-year-old Gordon sang in the car on the way to the house: *"Do not be afraid."*

55 Malvar became home. Ken's radio program **Moments of Melody** went out from these years on. In 1967 he began giving Bibles, gold-stamped with each name, to graduating cadets of the Philippine Military Academy. In 1968 he gave Scriptures to President Marcos. In July 1969 Ken watched the moon landing at Clark Air Base. In Baguio, Kevin says, Ken finally saw a church begin, something he never saw in all his years in Manila. Kevin calls the Malvar years the most valuable years they spent in the Philippines.

From Ken's 1967 diary, Mary Lou's memoir and Gordon's story "A High Mountain Apart" (3 Oct 2026), with Kevin's memories.

Listen: Mom's Piano

Listen: Moments to Remember

Give Us This Mountain

On Saturday 3 June 1967 the family had been in the house at 55 Malvar for three days. Two days before, Ken had printed three words across the top of his diary page: *"GIVE ME THIS MT."* Now, that same Saturday, he sat down at the typewriter and wrote to the elders of **Woodside Bible Chapel** in Maywood, Illinois, the church back home that prayed for them. Gordon sent the family both pages, "the way he typed them, typos and all."

Dear Brethren

It begins like any missionary's report. The assembly in Binangonan was encouraging. There was a start in Taytay. The Brigade program was almost wholly in the hands of the nationals. The Bible School of the Air had just passed the millionth mark in students enrolled. Mary Lou had helped start a coffee-hour Bible study in the home of one of the ladies in San Juan.

Then Ken explained the move. The doctor had advised a change of climate and suggested Baguio, and the day before they were to leave the city, they met a Filipino doctor with a house to rent.

> We looked at the house and felt it was just what we needed. … The Lord gave us peace about the whole matter.
>
> Ken to the Woodside elders, 3 June 1967

First, though, Ken visited **Brent School**, begun in 1909 by the Episcopal Church, and learned the children could be enrolled in the fall. Back in Manila the missionaries were all in favor.

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

Listen: Moments to Remember

He would keep taping programs for the Bible School of the Air and his own "Living Letters," carry a share of the "Teach Others Program" paperwork, and make trips down to Binangonan and Taytay. He and Mary Lou would study Ilocano, a trade language for some of the mountain tribes nearby. And there were few gospel broadcasts in Baguio. He hoped for one of their own.

> 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?
>
> the same letter

> 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.
>
> the same letter

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

Me, and Us

Look at the top and the bottom of the letter. At the bottom Ken typed Caleb's words from the book of Joshua, an old man asking for the hill country where the giants lived:

> AND CALEB SAID, "NOW THEREFORE GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN WHEREOF THE LORD SPAKE IN THAT DAY." JOSHUA 14:12
>
> the foot of the letter

Me. The same words he had printed in his diary on Thursday. At the top, in pen, someone has written "**GIVE US THIS MOUNTAIN.**" *Us.* And the letter is not signed Ken. It is signed Ken & Mary Lou.

What "Give us this mountain" would turn out to mean, Gordon says, is the rest of the story.

From Ken's 1967 diary and his letter of 3 June 1967 to the Woodside elders, in Gordon's story "Give Us This Mountain" (7 Oct 2026).

Be Not Afraid

The house was theirs now. But a house on a mountain still has to become a home.

The furniture came up from Manila on a truck at the end of June, and a carpenter put a picket fence around the lower level. On Tuesday 27 June, not four weeks after they moved in, there was a children's meeting at the house.

> We had a childrens meeting about 4 PM. Sang Inibig Ako Ni Jesus. I told "Barney's Barrel."
>
> Ken, 27 June 1967

A week later, Ken set up his desk.

> Got my office in order. Best office Ive ever had. Becky helped me.
>
> Ken, 3 July 1967

The First Day of School

In his letter to the elders that first Saturday, Ken had asked whether a gift for radio work was *"the first 'green light' toward Baguio radio work."* So in August he went calling on the radio stations. By the ninth, **DZBS**, one of the stations in Baguio, had given him a contract.

Late that August Kevin turned ten. They went to Burnham Park, the lake in the middle of town, and Ken wrote down why:

> Kevin's birthday — to Burnham Park — to take place of May 26th start.
>
> Ken, August 1967

May 26 was the day out that ended with a doctor in a driveway and a house to rent. The birthday boy got "a telephone set that really works." Then came 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.
>
> Ken, August 1967

Listen: Moments to Remember

On the Air

Then came Saturday, 2 September 1967. At the top of the page Ken wrote his verse for the day, from Matthew 14, the night Jesus came to the disciples walking on the water, in the storm:

> Matt. 14:27 In the storms of life He comes to us and says, "Be of good cheer, It is I, be not afraid."
>
> Ken, 2 September 1967

And at the bottom of the same page:

> First Childrens Bible Hour on the air on DZBS at 330. (8.75) I gave address at the end — had 60 sec.
>
> Ken, 2 September 1967

The first broadcast from the mountain, with sixty seconds at the end to give the address.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Do Not Be Afraid

Now go back to 26 May, to the car following the doctor up the hill to see a house nobody had been looking for. At the top of that page, in a different pen, Ken wrote down what was being sung in the back seat:

> `Gordons song in car to house 'Do not be afraid'`
>
> Ken, top of the page, 26 May 1967

A three-year-old in the back seat, on the way to a house: *do not be afraid.* Fourteen weeks later, in his father's hand, on the day his first program went out over the mountains: *be not afraid.*

Whether Ken thought of the song that Saturday, his page does not say. What "be not afraid" would turn out to mean, Gordon says, is the rest of the story.

From Ken's 1967 diary and Gordon's story "Be Not Afraid" (7 Oct 2026).

Two Candles

The family had been at 55 Malvar for less than five months. On the night of Monday 16 October 1967, Mary Lou sat up in the house on the hillside by candlelight. Ken was not home. Outside, a typhoon.

She wrote it down that night, in a little spiral notebook. At the top of the page she wrote "Typhoon," and under it, "Oct 16-17, 1967."

> Will I ever forget it?? Perched on this hillside, shuddering in the wind, kitchen ceiling leaking furiously through the ceiling electric outlet! Wind howling & screaming torrents of rain coming down. Typhoon Carla is her name.
>
> Mary Lou, notebook, "Typhoon, Oct 16-17, 1967"

Ken had been down in Manila for six days on the radio work. He was to come home the next day and bring a guest with him. So at midnight she picked up the telephone.

> Ken has been in Manila 6 days and was to come home tomorrow bringing Dad Brooks, but I had to call Epplers at midnite to tell them how dreadful it is hoping Dad & Ken won't attempt it as roads will be bad! The Lord has all this in His control and we just trust Him to bring us through it.
>
> the same night

Shoestrings

Dad Brooks was Cyril Brooks. When Ken and Mary Lou each first came out to the Philippines, they had stayed with Cyril and Anna Brooks. Up on the hill, the wind kept on.

> These 2 candles are keeping me warm too! Its rather chilly. Oh how the wind howls! It has been pulling windows unlocked open. I have tied all of them shut with shoestrings! There has never been a storm like this one. We must be really in the violent part of it. A tree crashed into a house and electric wires on Rimando, and there is no electricity in this part of Baguio.
>
> Mary Lou, notebook, October 1967

Shoestrings, on every window in the house. And what does a woman do, alone on a mountain with the lights out? She writes the letter she has been putting off.

> I have written to Dr. & Dra Casas in San Juan. Had wanted to do this for ages. The Lord knew I'd have to sit up for a night before I'd do it!
>
> the same night

Trining

Now go down the mountain, to Manila. On Tuesday 17 October Ken was up at half past four, with breakfast at a quarter past five and a prayer before the road: *"We are dependent on thee."* The weather report, he wrote, was *"not alarming."*

There were two roads up to Baguio: the Kennon Road, straight up the gorge, and the Naguilan Road, the long way round from the coast.

> …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.
>
> Ken, Tuesday 17 October 1967

Trining was the storm's name on his side of the mountain, and Carla on hers. Two names for one storm.

At the top of that diary page the printed line reads *"Today is the Birthday of ___."* In the blank, in blue ink and in quotation marks, Ken wrote one word: *"Trining."*

47.9 Inches

A storm's birthday, written down by a man who had turned back at a bridge and gone to bed with no lights. Then Wednesday:

> 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.
>
> Ken, Wednesday 18 October 1967

And at the foot of the page:

> 47.9" — 24 hours rain world's record
>
> Ken, foot of the same page

Forty-seven point nine inches, in one day. That is nearly four feet of rain on the city in twenty-four hours. A year later Ken and Mary Lou told their friends at home:

> …since our move here Baguio has set a new world's record for rainfall. It rained 47.9 inches in a 24 hour period !
>
> Ken and Mary Lou, letter to friends, October 1968

Surprised to See Us

Four feet of rain, and a woman on the hill with two candles and her shoestrings. Then Thursday the nineteenth:

> Sun shining brightly. Decided to go as far as we could. Kept right on going. Busses coming the other way.
>
> Ken, Thursday 19 October 1967

They went up the Naguilan Road, past the landslides. Ken counted them and wrote the number down. And then:

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

She had called the Epplers at midnight, hoping the men would not try the road. They tried, and on the Thursday they came home. There was no electricity, Ken wrote, and no water. But everybody was home.

> To this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at My word.
>
> Isaiah 66:2, the verse Ken set at the head of his letter to Woodside, 27 November 1967

"We were caused to feel like trembling," he told them, *"because of the two typhoons that came our way in recent weeks."*

Five Beautiful Dolls

Now, about that letter by candlelight, to Dr. and Dra. Casas in San Juan. Twelve years later, in December 1979, friends asked Ken where each of the children had been born. He typed his answer:

> Both Stan and Kevin were born in San Juan Hospital, San Juan, Rizal. Delivered by Dra. Nora Diokno Casas, sister of Senator Diokno.
>
> Ken, letter to friends, 7 December 1979

Which brings us back to the hill, and to the bottom of Mary Lou's first page, the line just before she turned it:

> I am staying up all night, praying, writing letters and watching over our 5 beautiful dolls! they are so sweet when they're asleep.
>
> Mary Lou, notebook, October 1967

Five: Becky, thirteen; Karen, twelve; Kevin, ten; Stan, seven; and Gordon, three. They slept in the house on the hill while their mother sat up by two candles, kept watch, and wrote to San Juan.

He Hadn't Forgotten

"Will I ever forget it??" Mary Lou had asked, at the top of the page.

Not quite two years later, in September 1969, Ken was on the road again.

> `At Haacks saw that typhoon was moving this way — remembered "Trining". Hurried on — made good time.`
>
> Ken, Saturday 6 September 1969

He hadn't forgotten.

What "Will I ever forget it??" would turn out to mean, Gordon says, is the rest of the story.

From Mary Lou's typhoon notebook, Ken's diaries and letters of 1967–79, and Gordon's story "Two Candles" (8 Oct 2026).

Listen: Mom's Piano

ML + I

Last time, a typhoon: Mary Lou alone on the hill at 55 Malvar with two candles and five sleeping children, and Ken turned back at a washed-out bridge. On Thursday 19 October 1967 he got through. *"They were surprised to see us."*

Everybody was home. But there was no electricity, and no water.

On Sunday the twenty-second Ken preached, and that week's Children's Bible Hour went out on the radio. Baguio had lost people in the storm, and he wrote that the program *"gave word of sympathy to those who lost loved ones."* At the top of the page, squeezed in beside the date, was the good news: *"Electricity on at 1:30."*

Lights, then. But still no water. On Monday, at the bottom of the page, four words:

> `Water tank is dry`
>
> Ken, Monday 23 October 1967

Listen: Moments to Remember

Becky's Dishes

So on Tuesday Ken went looking. He found a pump, borrowed it, and went to work hauling water up the hill in drums. He did not go alone.

> `Out to find water. Found pump at Mesman. Kevin helped with hauling 2 trips — 4 drums`
>
> Ken, Tuesday 24 October 1967

Kevin was ten. And at the foot of the same page is one more line, one that every family who has ever been without running water will understand:

> `Family crisis over Becky's dishes.`
>
> the same page

Becky was thirteen. Ken didn't say who won.

On Wednesday there were two more trips and four more drums, and something for Mary Lou: *"Installed Kerosene stove MW — 1957 for ML."* Then the pump went back to its owner. On Thursday, written big across the top of the page: *"Water on in afternoon!"* And at the foot, in capital letters, one word: *"WATER."*

Welming

Eighteen days after the night of the first storm, on Friday 3 November, a guest came to stay, Chuck Cox. They had painted his room that week and put in a new lamp. And on Saturday 4 November 1967 the wind came back.

> Winds blowing hard from noon on. Typhoon "Welming" ML + I stayed awake most of the night. Children and Chuck rested well.
>
> Ken, Saturday 4 November 1967

Another typhoon. Another night on the hill, the wind pulling at the house, five children asleep. Only this time she was not alone. *ML + I.*

The next morning Ken preached at Baguio Baptist on Jonah, chapters one and two: a man, a storm, and a God who brought him through it.

> Spoke at Baguio Baptist on Jonah 1+2.
>
> Ken, Sunday 5 November 1967

> But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea.
>
> Jonah 1:4

"Much wind damage in the city," he wrote. Then he went on with the week.

What "ML + I" would turn out to mean, Gordon says, is the rest of the story.

From Ken's diary for 22 October – 5 November 1967, in Gordon's story "ML + I" (The Malvar Years 8, 9 Oct 2026).

Prays for Us Daily

Most of us don't write down the near-misses: the day the brakes held, the night the fever broke. We are thankful for about an hour, and then life rolls on and we forget. Ken Engle wrote them down.

In the kitchen at 55 Malvar there was a box called a booster. The electricity on the hill could run low, and the booster was there to bring it back up. Ken pasted a snapshot of the kitchen into his album and wrote beside it:

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

The booster came to the house in July 1967. It *"took all afternoon to get it connected,"* Ken wrote, and it *"blew a fuse in the evening."* Late that August, on Kevin's tenth birthday, the day of the German chocolate cake and the telephone set that really worked, Ken tucked one line in just above the party:

> The booster got very hot — that we almost had a fire — strong odor from it.
>
> Ken, August 1967

Almost. A man came the next day. In September there was a bigger booster. And the family got on with it.

The Kettle

Nine months went by. On Thursday 9 May 1968 President Ferdinand Marcos came to Baguio, and Ken bought four books at the OMF bookshop, the Living series, to put in the President's hands.

> Pres Marcos arrives in evening. We got Living Series at OMF P32 4 volumes — ML wrote in them.
>
> Ken, Thursday 9 May 1968

Mary Lou wrote in them. The family would give a good deal to know what she wrote. She didn't say.

Then came Saturday. Ken wrote the way a man writes when his heart is still pounding:

> 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.
>
> Ken, Saturday 11 May 1968

One Sheet of Flame

And here is Mary Lou, the same day:

> A day we'll never forget. At 6:00 Ken put kettle on to boil. We were talking in our room when I thot I smelled smoke. I dashed to the kitchen & the bamboo curtains in the kitchen were one sheet of flame! I yelled fire, yanked the boys outside. Ken fot the blaze. I called Karen & Julie. Had the hose ready at the back door. Ken got it out quickly.
>
> Mary Lou, Saturday 11 May 1968

Two clocks, one fire. She smelled it; he ran. The boys were yanked out the door, Karen was called, and the hose was waiting at the back door. The second word in Ken's list is *"Booster"*, the same box that had warned them on Kevin's birthday.

Then Mary Lou wrote, not about the damage or the soot or the cost of new curtains, but this:

> Stove was not properly connected. The electrician said it could have happened any time even during nite! How thankful that the Lord allowed it in the daylight.
>
> Mary Lou, Saturday 11 May 1968

Any time, even at night, with every one of them asleep in a wooden house on a hillside. Instead it came at dawn, with both of them awake and talking in their room. Mary Lou saw a Hand in the timing, and she wrote it down.

Listen: Mom's Piano

Breaking of Bread

> He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
>
> Psalm 121:3

And then the day just went on. Ken's other page for that Saturday reads like any Saturday:

> 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.
>
> Ken, Saturday 11 May 1968, his other page

A scorched kitchen in the morning; the Lord's Supper in the house at night.

"Pres Marcos —"

On Sunday the twelfth they were up at half past five again, on purpose this time. Ken headed the page in blue ink, *"Pres Marcos —"*:

> 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.
>
> Ken, Sunday 12 May 1968

Fred was Fred Balanag, Evelyn's husband. Mary Lou gave it one line:

> Another great day - Ken, Dad B. & Fred gave Volumes of Living Writings to Pres. Marcos at 7 this a.m.!
>
> Mary Lou, Sunday 12 May 1968



Fred Balanag presents the Living books to President Ferdinand Marcos at the Baguio airport, Sunday 12 May 1968. Ken bought them at the OMF bookshop, and Mary Lou wrote in them.
Kevin Engle's collection

The day after the fire, the books with her handwriting in them went on to the President of the Philippines.

Mr. Reinheimer

Something has been held back, and it is the best part. Go back seven years, to the summer of 1961. The family was in California at the Home of Peace, a missionary home on San Francisco Bay, getting ready to sail back to the Philippines. Ken needed typewriters for the work, and he had help.

> 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.
>
> Ken, Friday 30 June 1961

It was not the first time; in 1956 two used typewriters had come *"from or through Mr. Reinheimer"* too. A month later, on sailing day, Sunday 30 July 1961, the first name Ken wrote in the afternoon was his:

> At 1:30 Mr Reinheimer there —
>
> Ken, Sunday 30 July 1961

Down the edge of that page, sideways in the margin, he added, *"I was under tension most of the day."* And the last line of the day: *"Sailed at 7PM — So thankful for everything"* The next day, at sea: *"Smooth sailing! The best 1st day of S.F. that I remember."*

They sailed on the *Anna Bakke* at seven that evening. And Mr. Reinheimer, it turns out, kept on praying.

He Prays for Us Daily

Now go back to the fire page. Mary Lou has just written, *"How thankful that the Lord allowed it in the daylight."* Here is the very next thing she wrote:

> Letter from Wm. Reinheimer (86) saying he prays for us daily, Lord's protection & care!
>
> Mary Lou, Saturday 11 May 1968

Eighty-six years old. Half a world away. Seven years since the dock. Every day.

> The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
>
> James 5:16

We never get to see most of the prayers that hold us up. Every once in a while the Lord lets one show, on the same page and the same day as the thing it was holding back. That Saturday He let Mary Lou see one.

Somebody prayed for you this week, too. You may never know who. Thank them anyway. Better yet, Gordon says, be a Mr. Reinheimer for somebody.

Gordon's next story, he promises, will tell who Fred Balanag was, and how the man next door on the hill came to be at the President's plane with four books in his hands.

From Ken's and Mary Lou's diaries for 9–12 May 1968, Ken's diaries for 1961 and 1967 and his photo album, in Gordon's story "Prays for Us Daily" (The Malvar Years 9, 10 Oct 2026).

Listen: Mom's Piano

Jonah for Sunday

Every preacher has a few books of the Bible he keeps going back to, the way you keep going back to a good coat. For Ken Engle on the hill in Baguio, one of them was a little book of four chapters: a man who ran from God, a storm that found him, and a city God would not give up on.

Jonah. It turns up in his diaries again and again, from one end of the Malvar years to the other. Follow it Sunday by Sunday, and it tells a story of its own.

It starts with a storm. On the morning after Typhoon Welming, Sunday 5 November 1967, Ken went down the hill and preached Jonah 1 and 2 at Baguio Baptist: the ship, the sailors, the fish, on a morning when the whole city could still hear the wind.

> I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.
>
> Jonah 2:2

Ten months later Jonah came back, and this time he came home.

A Class in the Living Room

In September 1968 the Engles were getting ready to try something new: a Bible class on Sunday morning, in their own living room at 55 Malvar. Sergeant Jaleco liked the idea.

> Sgt. Jaleco receptive to Sunday a.m. meeting.
>
> Mary Lou, Tuesday 17 September 1968

On Ken's page for that week, squeezed in at the end of a line, are three words:

> … Fields arrived — late — thankful (210) Jonah for Sun … Plans for Sunday — studied for JHay + 55 Malvar
>
> Ken, week of 15–21 September 1968

Then came Sunday the twenty-second. Ken taught Jonah first at the chapel on John Hay Air Base, and then:

> Taught class on Jonah at John Hay AFB — 12 Then we hurried home — our 55 Malvar Class 17 adults 5 children + Engles = 29. Everyone seemed to like morning hour 10:00 - 11:30.
>
> Ken, Sunday 22 September 1968

Twenty-Seven or Twenty-Nine

Mary Lou wrote it down too, in green ink:

> First day to have Bible Class at 10 a.m. 20 in all. 27 with our family. A beautiful sunny day. Real encouragement
>
> Mary Lou, Sunday 22 September 1968

Ken counted twenty-nine. Mary Lou counted twenty-seven. Nobody was keeping score; they were too busy being glad. In Gordon's photograph of the class in 1969, Bibles on laps, Evelyn Balanag sits at the top right, listening hard.

And before the week was out, you can almost guess it, the wind came back. At the bottom of Ken's page:

> Storm began about midnight — no sleep for ML. Called off Brigade leadership — it was really windy & rain. Typhoon "Nitang" had 185 km winds near center.
>
> Ken, week of 22–28 September 1968

Jonah on Sunday, a typhoon by the weekend. Some weeks the sermon comes with sound effects.

Chapel Hunting

Come forward a year, to Sunday 16 November 1969. The little class in the living room had become the family's own Sunday services. At the top of the page Ken wrote:

> Services here. Began series on Jonah.
>
> Ken, Sunday 16 November 1969

At half past eleven he was off down the mountain with Art and five Brigade boys. Three of them had never been to Manila.

The room kept filling up. A month later Mary Lou wrote that she and Ken had gone looking for a bigger place:

> Ken & I went 'chapel hunting'. Felt it would be a positive finding. Negative til we sighted Teachers Camp & decided to inquire. Perfect facilities for ₱5.00 a room per Sunday. We'll use two.
>
> Mary Lou, Tuesday 16 December 1969

Two Rooms

Ken's page for the same day:

> Looked for a place to meet near Navy Base. Tried several. At last ML thot of Teacher's Camp — A room ₱5. Possibly we'll get 2.
>
> Ken, Tuesday 16 December 1969

Two rooms. Not bad for a Bible class that began with twenty-some people in a living room.

The Sunday after Christmas was 28 December 1969. The boys had spent the week writing thank-you letters. And Ken wrote:

> Good crowd — Sgt Mitch & Badilla here. Jaleco had to be at Ft del Pilar. Mrs Rodriguez here for SS & FBH. Spoke on Jonah 2
>
> Ken, Sunday 28 December 1969

Salvation Is of the LORD

Jonah, chapter two, is the prayer from inside the fish. A man at the very bottom, *"the weeds were wrapped about my head,"* and from down there he says the truest thing in the book:

> `Salvation is of the LORD.`
>
> Jonah 2:9

Not of Jonah. Not of the sailors. Not of the preacher on the hill. Of the LORD.

That evening Ken borrowed a projector and turned the living room into a theater. Jaleco had made it after all:

> `Went to Nazarene Bible College got projector. Showed "God of the Atom" — Jaleco, Fred & Badilla plus young people here`
>
> Ken, Sunday 28 December 1969

Gordon has a photograph of a film night like it, the projector at the back, with Becky, Julie Aquino, Evelyn Balanag and Stanley Grant in the back row looking, he says, extremely excited (he means bored), and Karen at the back right.

The Second Time

One week later came the first Sunday of 1970, and chapter three:

> Good group out — possibly 50. T/Sgt Misch out again. Spoke on Jonah 3.
>
> Ken, Sunday 4 January 1970

Possibly fifty. And Jonah 3 begins with one of the kindest sentences in the whole Bible:

> And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time.
>
> Jonah 3:1

The second time. The same man who ran, the same man who sank, and God spoke to him again. That is grace. God doesn't only give second chances; He comes looking for us to give them.

The Sunday after that, 11 January, Ken was up early and out to the Philippine Military Academy:

> Spoke at Cadet Chapel at 8 A.M. … Spoke on Jonah … Good group of young people out.
>
> Ken, Sunday 11 January 1970

Nineveh

Rows of young men in uniform at eight in the morning, hearing about a God who gives second chances. That May the family would fly home on furlough.

If Ken ever preached chapter four on the hill, the diaries don't say. Maybe that is fitting. Jonah 4 is the chapter where the preacher sulks under a vine, and God has the last word. The last word is a question, about a city full of people He loved:

> And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?
>
> Jonah 4:11

God cared about Nineveh. He cared about a living room in Baguio, too: twenty-seven people in it, or twenty-nine, depending on who was counting.

A beautiful sunny day. *"Real encouragement."*

From Ken's and Mary Lou's diaries, November 1967 to January 1970, in Gordon's Sunday story "Jonah for Sunday" (11 Oct 2026).

The Landlord and the Projectionist

Dr. Jose dela Rosa did more than rent the family a house. He owned a movie theater downtown, at the foot of Session Road, and he lent the Engles his projectionist.

So on film nights the living room at 55 Malvar became a little theater. The projectionist came up the hill with the projector, and the family showed the Moody Science films. Twenty, twenty-five, thirty, sometimes thirty-five people crowded in, and afterward Mary Lou served refreshments. Kevin remembers that Dr. dela Rosa himself came to several of the showings, where the gospel was very clearly presented.

The films came from the Moody Institute of Science, founded in 1945, which grew out of Dr. Irwin Moon's "Sermons from Science." There were titles like *God of Creation*, *City of the Bees* and *Red River of Life*. Each one used the wonders of nature to point to the Creator. By 1951 about 200,000 servicemen a year were watching them.

For Ken, the films came from home. He had studied at Moody Bible Institute before the war and again from 1946 to 1950, and he had been an announcer on its radio station.

> One of my father's objectives was that people would have as many opportunities as possible to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior, whether while watching a film, at home, in their car, in a jeepney, or somewhere else.
>
> Kevin, 2026

It was the same burden for the Philippines he had carried since he flew over the islands in the tail of a B-24.

As Kevin remembers it (8 Oct 2026), with histories of the Moody Institute of Science.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Nothing Is Impossible

On the first page of his 1967 diary, before anyone had heard of Malvar Street, Ken wrote his verse for the year, Isaiah 43:19, and under it a line of his own:

> What new thing (things) will He do in 1967. I am anxious to see.
>
> Ken, 1 January 1967

In sixteen years in Manila, Kevin says, Dad never saw the start of a church. In Baguio he did.

It began with one young woman, **Evelyn Balanag**, who came to Christ. Others followed, and a little company of believers began to meet. Whenever they met, Kevin remembers, there was one chorus they always sang, and it became the song of the Baguio church: "**Nothing Is Impossible.**"

A man who had prayed in 1945 for a church on Mindoro, and never got there, saw one begin at last, in the pine city where he and Mary Lou had spent their honeymoon. Kevin calls the Malvar years the most valuable years they spent in the Philippines.

Evelyn's own story, in Mary Lou's words, is told in Part Two of this volume: "Mary Lou, Mary Lou." Still to be told: where the church first met, and who came next.

From Ken's 1967 diary and Kevin's memories.

Back and Forth

In June 1970 the family came home to Abilene, expecting to go back. Ken walked Gordon to Garfield Elementary on his first day. His verse for 1970 was Nehemiah 2:20:

> The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build.
>
> Ken's diary, verse for 1970

They stayed three years, so Karen could finish high school in Abilene. Mary Lou's 1971 diary is full of small things. Gordon asked whether she knew "the kittens that grow on trees" (pussy willows). He shook his birthday cards to see if money fell out, and if none did, he said "No good!" Stan dreamed he was diving off the high dive and fell out of his top bunk. At eight Gordon typed a letter to his second-grade teacher, Miss McMahon, thanking her for a good year. In February 1972 Ken wrote to supporters that their return was still not definite: *"Karen has one more year of high school."*

In June 1973 they returned to Baguio. The younger children went to **Brent School**. Gordon built a model telegraph for the science fair, beside Stan's model of the Hoover Dam.

From Mary Lou's 1971 diary, Ken's diary and letters, and Gordon's story "The Boy Who Went to Four Schools" (1 Sep 2026).

Listen: Mom's Piano

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 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.

Companion Books

Seven 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

"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

Kevin's Recollections
Kevin Engle · in his own words · Stewards Foundation · In Dad's Own Words

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Every link in the series, in one place →

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What Comes Next

Volume Four, *The Abilene Years*, continues the story.

> 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

BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

18 PAGES

[Photo - see the full copy]

Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

VOLUME FOUR · THE ABILENE YEARS

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Volume Four: The Abilene Years

Home to Kansas, the six grown up, and two homegoings · 1975–2009

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PART ONE

Home to Abilene

1975–2009 · Abilene, Kansas

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

Abilene

Ken never really left the Philippines. From Abilene he kept recording for the radio until about 2000, more than a thousand messages in all. He preached in the area assemblies, spoke at Kansas Bible Camp, and visited the nursing homes with a chalkboard. *"When Mary Lou is able to go along and play, that is a real plus."*

Doug was born in 1976, twenty-two years after Becky. In September 1980 Ken took three-year-old Doug to the service at Brown's Home, where Grandpa and Grandma now lived. Doug had memorized a verse for each letter from A to Q. He said A through D into the microphone *"really well!!"* Ken wrote, *"He made quite a 'hit.'"* A relative, Jenny Engle, gave him five dollars.

On 21 November 1987 Stan married **Fiona Harvey** in Torquay, England. Karen was the only Engle there. She sang, attended the bride, and brought home the pictures and a tape. *"She was the right one to be over in England,"* Mary Lou wrote.

On Memorial Day 1997, Ken put on Kevin's Navy jacket and walked to the Eighth Street Bridge to give the prayer. He began by naming the service in his own family:

> `Began by mentioning KLE in Navy, 2 in Air Force + KES in US Army Air Corps.`
>
> Ken, Memorial Day 1997

From Ken's and Mary Lou's diaries and letters, and Gordon's stories "He Made Quite a Hit," "The Witness" and "Anchors Aweigh, My Boys."

Down the Hall

On Tuesday 20 February 1962, in the Philippines, Mary Lou took four-and-a-half-year-old Kevin along to her music classes. He was not really old enough for school, but that day he got to go. While his mother taught, he went off on an errand of his own: down the hall to the first-grade room, where his big sister Karen, six, sat.

> Took Kevin to school. to my music classes. He visited Karen's room.
>
> Mary Lou's diary, 20 February 1962

That same day the whole world was holding its breath over one man.

> Listening to Voice of America and recording as JOHN GLENN is supposed to go into orbit in an hour.
>
> Mary Lou's diary, 20 February 1962

On his desk-diary page for that Tuesday, under Exodus 29:37, Ken wrote his own prayer:

> O Lord my life I give to Thee on the altar.
>
> Ken's desk diary, 20 February 1962

A man was about to go around the world, and a little boy had gone down the hall to find his sister.

A Mirror from Japan

Fourteen years later the boy was on the far side of the world himself. In the spring of 1975, at seventeen, Kevin joined the United States Navy. In the first week of January 1976 a letter reached the house in Abilene.

> First letter from Kevin in Japan! Happy! Says he's at Yokota AFB. Tokyo and will go to his ship.
>
> Mary Lou's diary, 5 January 1976

That April, Karen's twenty-first birthday fell on Easter Sunday. She came home at midnight. Ken was up at five for the sunrise service, the chapel was full that morning, more than ninety people signed the guest book at the afternoon open house, and the house was packed again that night. Mary Lou called it a "thrilling experience," and at the top of the day, in red ink, she wrote:

> Karen's 21st birthday. Had wonderful day.
>
> Mary Lou's diary, Easter Sunday 1976

One present had crossed an ocean, from the eighteen-year-old sailor who could not be at the table. Ken wrote it down, with a little E squeezed in above the name, because Kevin Dyer was in town that day:

> Presents — Kevin E sent mirror from Japan.
>
> Ken's diary, Easter Sunday 1976

From Mary Lou's diaries for 1962 and 1976, Ken's diaries, and Gordon's story "Down the Hall" (28 Sep 2026).

Saved Early Age

In the back of Ken's 1976 diary is a page printed with red columns and headed MARCH CASH ACCOUNT. He never put a penny in it. Down the column where the money should go, he wrote his family, one name to a line, with what each needed.

> 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
>
> Ken's 1976 diary

Douglas was a few weeks old. Year after year the line grew with the boy: *saved at early age — will of God* (1977), *Not spoil. Spir. train.* (1980), *1st grade, Kennedy* (1983).

On 29 December 1986 Ken opened the new diary to two facing pages headed *Memo for Next Year*. On the right he listed his family. On the left he wrote a prayer:

> CALL upon ME and I will answer thee and shew thee Great and Mighty things which thou knowest not. GMT Jer 33:3
>
> Ken, 29 December 1986

Months later he went back to that page and, under Douglas's name, squeezed in a line with a caret pointing to where it belonged:

> ^ Baptized 14 Jun 87 So. Porcupine ON
>
> the same page

From Ken's diaries, 1976–87, in Gordon's "Saved Early Age."

The Wedding

Kansas, the last week of July 1983. Hot, not warm. Mary Lou wrote "over 100" at the top of the page, day after day.

> 108° today in shade.
>
> Mary Lou, Tuesday 26 July 1983

> So hot can't put body outside door. Kansas all dried up! Hope heaven is cool!
>
> Mary Lou, Thursday 28 July 1983

But on the Monday of that week she had written something else:

> Engles left for Chicago and Mark Dyer's wedding on 30th
>
> Mary Lou, Monday 25 July 1983

Engles meant Grant and Mabel, Grandpa and Grandma Engle. He had turned eighty-four the week before; she was eighty-two. Off they went, out of that Kansas heat, all the way to Chicago, to see their grandson Mark, Eloise's boy, married to Sue on Saturday the thirtieth.

The diaries don't tell about the wedding itself; Ken and Mary Lou were home that week. But on the Sunday Ken wrote one line that says the trip was made and finished:

> Folks got home from Pross Hts.
>
> Ken, Sunday 31 July 1983

Prospect Heights. Home again. That was July.

Nine Grandsons

Four months later, on Monday 21 November 1983, Mary Lou wrote:

> G'ma Engle died today in Wichita.
>
> Mary Lou, 21 November 1983

The next day: "Kevin Dyer arrived today." On Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, the family came in from everywhere. *"Thanksgiving 1983 All Engles here because of Grandma,"* Mary Lou wrote, and Ken wrote down who would sleep under his roof that night:

> Corkills, Dyer children — to stay with us — Mark + Sue and Craig — good visit.
>
> Ken, Thanksgiving, 24 November 1983

Mark and Sue, married not four months. In July his grandmother had gone all the way to Chicago, out of that heat, to see him married. In November he and his bride came all the way to Kansas to see her buried.

On Friday the twenty-fifth Ken wrote, *"Kevin Dyer spoke."* And Mary Lou:

> G'ma Engle's funeral! 9 grandsons carried her coffin. Beautiful day!
>
> Mary Lou, 25 November 1983

Listen: Mom's Piano

Newbern Cemetery

That Christmas Ken and Mary Lou headed their letter to friends with Luke 2:10–11, and Ken told them about the 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.
>
> Ken, Christmas letter, December 1983

Four months, one trip each way.

From Ken's and Mary Lou's 1983 diaries and their Christmas letter of December 1983, in Gordon's story "The Wedding" (9 Oct 2026).

Spoke on Emmaus Road

On Saturday 13 June 1987, at Becky and Dave's home in South Porcupine, Ontario, Ken wrote down an ordinary day.

> `Dave talking to Doug + Christy. Dave filling baptismal tank — hot water.`
>
> Ken, 13 June 1987

Then turn signals, barbecued chicken and salad. And on the last line of the page: *"Study = Luke 24."* The road to Emmaus.

The next morning Dave baptized Doug, ten, and his own daughter Christy, and they told how they were saved. Ken *"Spoke on Emmaus Road."*

It was no stranger's text. In August 1963 Ken had driven out to Emmaus Bible School and offered to teach, and he was still grading its correspondence courses in 1999. Doug went on to Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque, Iowa, and graduated in May 2000.

On the night before his youngest son was baptized, a man who had taught the Emmaus road for twenty-four years sat down and studied it again, as though it mattered more this time.

From Ken's 1987 diary, in Gordon's story "Spoke on Emmaus Road."

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."

PART TWO

Homegoings

2003 · 2009 · and the family that carries it on

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

Two Homegoings

Mary Lou went home to the Lord on 12 April 2003, at seventy-two. The funeral was a week before what would have been their fiftieth anniversary. Stan set out a hundred cassettes of her music, and every one was taken. He played "Be Thou My Vision." Doug spoke, and in a letter afterward Ken lingered over him:

> Next is Doug. You will enjoy him!! … He is the son of our "old age."
>
> Ken, in a letter of 22 August 2003

Doug borrowed the family joke that Dad "only knows how to play the radio."

Ken spent his last years with Kevin and Cheryl in Texas, with long visits to Becky and Karen. His humor never quit. *"If I ever forget,"* Kevin wrote, *"he reminds me he is the dad."*

Ken went home on Thursday 5 November 2009, in Abilene, four days before his eighty-fifth birthday. Kevin held his hand. Cheryl sang "Finally Home." A military honor guard gave him the honors he had earned over the Pacific, and he was laid to rest near Mary Lou.

> Gordon, enjoy the journey.
>
> Ken

From Ken's letter of 22 August 2003, in Gordon's story "The Son of Our Old Age" (1 Oct 2026), and family emails.

Companion Books

Seven 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

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San Juan, Rizal · 1951–1996

"Mary Lou, Mary Lou": The Story of Evelyn and Fred Balanag
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What Comes Next

Volume Five, *Moments of Melody*, tells Ken's radio ministry, from WMBI to keepm.org. Gordon is still sending a story nearly every day, and each one will be added to 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

Listen: Moments to Remember

UPDATED 14 OCTOBER 2026

30 PAGES

[Photo - see the full copy]

Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

VOLUME FIVE · MOMENTS OF MELODY

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Volume Five: Moments of Melody

Ken Engle's radio ministry, from WMBI to keepm.org · 1946–2026

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Chronology: Ken Engle on the Air

1930s	A farm boy near Abilene listens to Moody Bible Institute's radio programs
High school	Wins an award for a speech with the FFA (Future Farmers of America); an FFA trip takes him to Chicago and Moody
1943	First term at Moody, before the war
1946–50	Moody student and announcer on WMBI, Chicago
Late 1940s	Trains Bill Pearce, later the host of Nightsounds, on the WMBI console; on the air with Helen Barth, the former dance-band singer
July 1950	Fills in on WMBI's "Morning Clock," four mornings
Fall 1950	Radio talks on his deputation trip east; his visa is recommended because he "specialized in religious radio broadcasting"
Mar 1951	Arrives in Manila; announcer for Cyril Brooks's Bible School of the Air on DZAS (Far East Broadcasting Company); 2,400 enrolled
1951–75	Programs from Manila and Baguio

Listen: Moments to Remember

Chronology, continued

1966	Thirty-six programs on Romans, with Dad Brooks
1967	Bible School of the Air passes one million students enrolled; his own program "Living Letters"
Sept 1967	DZBS contract in Baguio; first Children's Bible Hour on the air, 2 September
1 Oct 1967	Moments of Melody begins on DZBS at 6 a.m., five minutes every day; DZFE and three overseas stations to follow
1970–73	On Kansas stations KABI, KSKG and KLJC; KSKG asks for Moments of Melody every day (1971)
1973–75	Back on the air from Baguio
1975–c. 2000	Records from Abilene: Moments of Melody, Moments to Remember, Living Bible, Living Psalms and more
In all	More than a thousand programs; 1,046 messages kept on Voices for Christ
May 2004	Moments of Melody, remastered, airs on 265 stations of the Bible Broadcasting Network for three days
7 July 2026	keepm.org goes on the air, playing his messages around the clock

PART ONE

Heard at Home

1946–1951 · WMBI, Chicago · and a call to the islands

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Listen: Moments to Remember

A Radio on the Farm

Ken Engle's radio ministry began with a radio on a Kansas farm. As a boy he listened to the programs of Moody Bible Institute. In high school he won an award for a speech with the FFA, the Future Farmers of America, and an FFA trip took him to Chicago, where he saw Moody for himself. He enrolled.

After the war he went back to Moody and became an announcer on **WMBI**, the Institute's station. Once he introduced the salon orchestra as the "saloon orchestra." He blamed being "too long in the Air Force."

In the summer of 1950 he sent his sister Eloise his radio schedule, with news:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Eloise, 29 June 1950

A fourteen-year-old listener, he added, had written in to say she had a mental picture that Bob Murfin looked like Ken Engle.

"Morning Clock" was the program that woke Chicago up. Two weeks later Ken wrote to Mary Lou Leonard, a student nurse he had just begun to date:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, 13 July 1950

"So far I've received two requests from people for poems read on the air."

From Ken's letters and Kevin's memories.

You Broke Me In

At WMBI Ken also trained the new men. One of them was **Bill Pearce**, a Marine Corps trombonist home from the war, who came to Moody and was hired at the station. Ken taught him the control console. Bill worked closely there with Chuck Christensen.

Bill never forgot who taught him. In later years, whenever he saw Ken, he said the same thing:

> `You broke me in.`
>
> Bill Pearce to Ken, as Kevin remembers it

Bill went on to a long radio life of his own. At WMBI in the 1960s he hosted a late-night program, and in the 1970s he founded **Nightsounds**, music and a quiet word for the night, heard each weeknight on more than 300 stations in the United States, Canada and overseas. In 1992 he was inducted into the National Religious Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Listen to Nightsounds at nightsoundsradio.org.

As Kevin remembers it (8 Oct 2026), with the Nightsounds station histories.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Helen Barth

Of all the voices at WMBI, the one Ken was happiest to work with was **Helen Barth**. The family remembers her as the nightclub singer who came to sing for the Lord, and Dad was always glad to tell it.

She grew up as Helen McAlerney in Moline, Illinois. As a young woman she sang with a dance orchestra and had a show on a station across the river in Davenport, Iowa, and she was headed for the nightclub circuit. She was not happy. In 1939 she enrolled at Moody Bible Institute, and during her first days there she came to faith in Christ.

WMBI turned her down twice. On her third audition she was hired. By 1942 she was on the staff full time, singing her own live programs every week, often alongside George Beverly Shea. In 1943 the bandleader Tommy Dorsey asked her to join his band, and she said no. The next year she married Reinhold Barth, and from 1950 they served with Youth for Christ in Germany, where she sang at Billy Graham's meetings in London and Berlin.

Ken never forgot sharing the air with her. Sailing to the Philippines in March 1951, he tuned in to DZAS from the ship and wrote Mary Lou the news:

> `Heard Helen Borth the other day.`
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, 14 March 1951

Halfway around the world, her voice had gotten there first.

From family memory, Ken's letter of 14 March 1951, and Moody Bible Institute's 2017 alumni tribute.

Listen: Moments to Remember

The Little Room

That August Mary Lou toured the Moody station with friends and wrote to Ken, who was home on the farm in Kansas:

> Saw the little room from which "Morning Clock" eminates. Could just picture you there trying not to fall asleep and trying to wake others up.
>
> Mary Lou to Ken, August 1950

Ken was glad of the break. Plowing on the farm, he wrote, was *"about the best vacation I could have because it's so restful after radio and school work."* Before he left Chicago he hooked up a little record player to his Hallicrafters short-wave set, *"ready to take to the Philippines."*

In Chicago Mary Lou kept listening. In December she heard him again:

> This pm at 3:15 heard you over WMBI … You quoted the verse "Thou shalt keep him in perfect peace" ect.
>
> Mary Lou to Ken, December 1950

That same month an old friend, Clyde Dennis, wrote to Ken that he had heard his voice on WMBI *"and hoped I'd be broadcasting in the Far East soon."*

From Ken and Mary Lou's letters, 1950.

Religious Radio Broadcasting

That fall Ken spoke his way through New England and New York with his slides of the Philippines, and some of the talks went out over the air. *"It has to be written out for the radio,"* he wrote of one, *"and I've spent hours on it already."*

His visa for the Philippines was still in doubt. In November a note came from Cyril Brooks in Manila. The immigration investigator had recommended the visa, and Mr. Brooks explained what had helped:

> I stressed particularly the fact that you had specialized in religious radio broadcasting. You see we have to demonstrate that there is no one locally to be had for the work you are coming to do.
>
> Cyril Brooks, quoted by Ken, November 1950

Ken passed it on to Mary Lou the same day.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, November 1950

He told her to find the new *Christian Life*, which had *"a wonderful article about DZAS,"* the gospel station in Manila. And he let himself dream: *"I can just see M.L. at the DZAS studio organ. It will be the sweetest music those Filipinos have heard."*

From Ken's letters to Mary Lou, November 1950.

Listening from the Ship

Ken sailed from San Francisco on 18 February 1951 on the freighter *California Bear*. Somewhere on the Pacific his receiver began to pick up DZAS, and he heard his own name.

> 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)
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, 14 March 1951

"Sounds so much like WMBI," he wrote. In Manila Bay the next evening he listened to the six o'clock news from DZAS: *"The quality of the programs I find is very high."*

Back in Chicago, Mary Lou listened to WMBI and thought of him.

> Saturday Songsters were just on the air. My, but I do enjoy it. If the Philipines enjoy D. ZAS a fraction as much as we do WMBI, it must be a real blessing.
>
> Mary Lou to Ken, 17 March 1951

At a young people's meeting she watched a film about HCJB, the missionary station in Ecuador. *"I was picturing you in the studio of DZAS,"* she wrote, *"as I actually viewed the type of work done by missionary radio."*

From Ken and Mary Lou's letters, March 1951.

Listen: Moments to Remember

PART TWO

The Islands

1951–1975 · DZAS, Manila · DZBS, Baguio

UPDATED 14 OCTOBER 2026

Listen: Moments to Remember

The Bible School of the Air

Ken landed in Manila on Saturday 17 March 1951. On Monday he was opening and grading letters for Mr. Brooks's **Bible School of the Air**, which had *"well over 2000 enrolled,"* and that evening Mr. Brooks interviewed him on DZAS. Within the week Mr. Brooks let him do the announcing.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Mary Lou, 26 March 1951

He wrote the scripts and mimeographed the lessons. The program aired on Monday nights and again on Sunday, so *"we are really on three times a week."* Hearing himself on tape, he admitted, *"I sounded kinda scared-maybe I'll get over that."* One week brought more than a hundred new enrollments, *"the biggest week yet,"* and a letter from a listener who had been saved. On visitation he met a young man in the tuberculosis hospital who had been *"reached by the radio work."*

Mary Lou answered from Chicago: *"I can just hear you announcing! (Those fortunate people getting to hear my Ken)."*

Two months later the station returned the favor. When word came that Mary Lou had said yes to his proposal, someone at DZAS dedicated a song on the air: *"So Kenny this is for you."*

From Ken and Mary Lou's letters, March–May 1951.

Listen: Mom's Piano

Listen: Moments to Remember

A Thousand Programs

Ken served on the air with the Far East Broadcasting Company in Manila from 1951. Over the years he made more than a thousand radio programs. In the spring of 1966 he and Dad Brooks recorded thirty-six programs on Romans, one chapter after another. For his many Roman Catholic listeners he often read from the Knox translation.

By June 1967 the Bible School of the Air had passed the millionth mark in students enrolled. When the family moved to Baguio that summer, Ken wrote to the elders back home that he would keep taping programs for it and for his own program, "Living Letters."

A gift for radio work had just come in, and he asked whether it was the first "green light" toward Baguio radio work. The letter is in Volume Three, "Dear Brethren."

In August he went calling on the radio stations of Baguio. By the ninth, **DZBS** had given him a contract.

From Ken's letter to the Woodside elders, 3 June 1967.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Be Not Afraid

On Saturday, 2 September 1967, the first Children's Bible Hour went out over DZBS in Baguio, with sixty seconds at the end to give the address. Ken's diary page for that day, with its verse from Matthew 14, is told in full in Volume Three, "Be Not Afraid."

Within the month he was at work on another program, the one the family remembers best: **Moments of Melody**, hymns and gospel music with a short word from Scripture in his own quiet voice. Here is how it began.

From Ken's 1967 diary and Gordon's story "Be Not Afraid" (7 Oct 2026).

Listen: Moments to Remember

Five Minutes from the Mountain

Five minutes isn't much. It's a cup of coffee going cold, or the time it takes to find the car keys. But give a man five minutes on the radio at six o'clock every morning, and you soon find out what he thinks matters most.

On Monday, 28 August 1967, a few months after the family moved to 55 Malvar, Ken dropped the children at Brent School and drove to DZBS, the Baguio radio station. That night he wrote:

> Talked to them about a program for me. Five minute — they offered me 600–605 AM for ₱2.85 a day.
>
> Ken, Monday 28 August 1967

Six o'clock in the morning, for two pesos and eighty-five centavos a day. The very next day, with a typhoon named Rosie blowing outside, he sat down to plan it:

> Began preparation of Moments of Melody + Meditation using John. Centers around scripture — with music + short shots.
>
> Ken, Tuesday 29 August 1967

Listen: Moments to Remember

Real Joy

Moments of Melody: music, and the Gospel of John, a few verses at a time. The Gospel he built the first programs on says why it was written:

> But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.
>
> John 20:31

He worked at it all through September. On the twelfth, after a morning at the market and a call to Dr. dela Rosa about the electric booster, he wrote a line that tells you how it felt:

> Did 12 Moments of Melody — Real joy in doing these + on John — His Help!
>
> Ken, Tuesday 12 September 1967

Listen: Moments to Remember

Three Overseas Stations

A week later he was down the mountain in Manila, recording at the big station, DZAS. And the news got bigger:

> Then end to end recording of ½ hour of 5 minute Moments of Melody — got them on 12 programs. DZFE will release MMM (Moments of Melody + Meditation) beginning Oct 1 + 3 overseas stations besides DZBS — Praise Him.
>
> Ken, Monday 18 September 1967

Three overseas stations, for a program planned at a desk in a house on a hill in Baguio.

On Saturday, 30 September, Ken drove down to DZBS with a box of tapes. He wrote it in two short lines, and you can almost hear him smiling:

> Took 24 broadcasts to DZBS with announcements of Moments of Melody. First time I've ever had a daily program.
>
> Ken, Saturday 30 September 1967

Sixteen years in the Philippines: sermons, classes, broadcasts, Brigade camps, Bible courses by the thousand. But never, until now, a program every single day.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Six O'Clock, Sunday Morning

The next morning, Sunday, 1 October 1967, at six o'clock:

> 6AM first release of Moments of Melody. Master Control theme — pearl song then verses from Knox translation "It Will Be Worth It All" closing theme — 5 minutes daily DZBS — DZFE + overseas.
>
> Ken, Sunday 1 October 1967

The closing song was "It Will Be Worth It All."

Then he did what every man with a daily program has to do. He made more.

> Working on Moments of Melody.
>
> Ken, Monday 2 October 1967

> Worked on Moments of Melody.
> Correspondence Abilene.
>
> Ken, Tuesday 3 October 1967

Five minutes a day is thirty-five minutes a week, and the week never stops.

Listen: Moments to Remember

From the Bedroom

Not even when the man does. On Wednesday, 22 November, Ken was sick in bed. He wrote:

> Down all day — but made 5 of the 5 minute programs in my bedroom. Really kept me going. Some fever — real sore throat.
>
> Ken, Wednesday 22 November 1967

A sore throat, in a radio man. And he recorded five programs anyway, from his bedroom, and said it kept him going.

Most of us do our best work when we feel our best. Every now and then the Lord lets us do it on a day we don't, and that turns out to be the day we remember.

> My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.
>
> Psalm 5:3

Seventy-Five Cents

The next day was Thanksgiving. On that page Ken noted a request from home:

> Kevin D asked me to supply info on missions for their telephone service.
>
> Ken, Thursday 23 November 1967, Thanksgiving

That was Uncle Kevin Dyer, back in Illinois, starting a telephone line people could call for the latest missionary news. Ken wrote back on the twenty-seventh, and he couldn't resist:

> It is amazing to think that for 75¢ that people can call from anywhere in the country. With rates like that Mary Lou and Eloise would be talking cross country nightly. Hope they don't get rates like that for overseas. One of my savings since coming back to the Philippines was the phone bill!!
>
> Ken & Mary Lou to Kevin & Eloise Dyer, 27 November 1967

Two brothers-in-law, one on each side of the world, both trying to get the news out faster.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Review of 1967

On 11 December Ken was back in Manila at the microphone:

> Recorded 35 Moments of Melody — actually 40 because we had to do 5 over.
>
> Ken, Monday 11 December 1967

At the back of that year's diary, on a page he headed "Review of 1967," among the biggest things of the year, he wrote one more line:

> Review of 1967 … June BAGUIO move … Oct. 1 1st Moments of Melody DZBS
>
> Ken's 1967 diary, "Review of 1967" page

Mary Lou remembered it too. Later, when she listed what the Lord had done in their Baguio years, she put it first under radio work:

> 3. Radio Work — 1) Moments of Melody a) DZBS - DZAH every a.m. b) over other stations from N. to S. through H. Epplers efforts
>
> Mary Lou's Baguio Experiences notebook

From north to south, five minutes at a time.

From Ken's 1967 diary, his and Mary Lou's letter of 27 November 1967 to Kevin and Eloise Dyer, and Mary Lou's Baguio notebook, in Gordon's story "Five Minutes from the Mountain" (The Malvar Years, 11; sent 14 Oct 2026).

Listen: Moments to Remember

Moments of Melody

Years later a missionary named Jack Baker, who had also worked in radio at DZAS, visited the family in Canada. Becky wrote to Kevin afterward that Jack *"told Daddy how much he appreciated Dad's programs, Moments of Melody."* What Jack remembered, she said, was Ken's *"calm and loving ways, and gentle voice."*

When the family came home to Abilene from 1970 to 1973, the program came too. Ken was heard on Kansas stations KABI, KSKG and KLJC. Mary Lou's diary for 22 September 1971:

> `Ken & I went to Salina. KSKG wants to use m.m. every day.`
>
> Mary Lou, 22 September 1971

Ten days later they drove back to Salina *"to take tapes to KSKG."* In 1973 the family returned to Baguio, and the programs went on until they left the field in 1975.

From Becky's email to Kevin and Mary Lou's 1971 diary.

PART THREE

Still on the Air

1975–2026 · Abilene, Kansas · and around the world

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Listen: Moments to Remember

From Abilene

Today 1,046 of the messages Ken recorded from Abilene are kept on Voices for Christ.

His children teased him that Dad *"only knows how to play the radio."* In 2008, staying with Becky in Ontario, he listened to the old record albums of Radio Bible Class and the Sixteen Singing Men. Becky wrote that the music *"unlocks the part of his brain which remembers so much detail about the men involved in this music and Moody."*

From family emails, 2008.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Sky Angel

In May 2004, after some twenty years off the air, Moments of Melody came back. Kevin produced it. Audio engineers at Children's Bible Hour in Grand Rapids, Michigan, remastered the programs, taking the music off and putting it back in from new digital copies of the original records. Ted Sealy recorded an introduction and closing. Kevin had enough programs for more than seven years of weekly broadcasts.

The Bible Broadcasting Network carried it on 265 stations in the United States and South America, by way of the Sky Angel satellite. The signal did not reach Abilene, so Ken, seventy-nine, drove toward Salina to hear the first broadcast on AM radio.

Three days later the network cancelled it. Nobody knows exactly why. Ken wrote four words in his daily log:

> `Sky Angel Shot Down.`
>
> Ken, 4 May 2004

As Kevin remembers it, with Ken's daily log for May 2004.

Listen: Moments to Remember

LIVE: Dad's 24/7 Station

On the Air Again

On 7 July 2026, Kevin wrote to the family: *"keepm.org Radio is LIVE — Dad's STATION just started."*



keepm.org is a 24-hour gospel radio station. It plays Ken Engle's messages around the clock, along with Bible teaching from men like Tommy Nelson and Ray Stedman. It is part of **KEE Philippine Missions**, which carries on Ken's passion for the islands. Through the Messenger 60 Project, Filipino listeners who memorize sixty Bible verses receive a solar audio Bible of their own.

A farm boy listened to Moody radio in Kansas. Eighty years later his own voice is on the air again, day and night, for the Philippines he loved.

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

From Kevin's email to the family, 7 July 2026.

Listen: Moments to Remember

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

Kevin's Recollections
Kevin Engle · in his own words · **Stewards Foundation** · **In Dad's Own Words**

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

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Every link in the series, in one place →

Sources

Drawn from: Ken and Mary Lou's letters of 1950–51 (Engle Letters, 2007 transcription project); Ken's diaries and his letter of 3 June 1967 to the Woodside Bible Chapel elders; Mary Lou's 1971 diary; Gordon's stories "The Letter She Lost," "Give Us This Mountain," "Be Not Afraid" and "Five Minutes from the Mountain" (Ken's 1967 diary, his and Mary Lou's letter of 27 November 1967 to Kevin and Eloise Dyer, and Mary Lou's Baguio notebook); family emails 2008–2026 from Becky, Kevin, Gordon and Doug; Kevin's recollections (8 Oct 2026: the FFA speech award, WMBI 1946–50, training Bill Pearce, and the later program names); on Bill Pearce and Nightsounds, KARI 550 and WORD-FM station pages; on Helen Barth, Moody Bible Institute's 2017 alumni tribute; Ken's 1973 testimony tape.

More to come. Kevin is gathering more of Dad's radio material, and this volume will grow.

What Comes Next

Kevin is gathering more of Dad's radio programs and papers. This volume will grow as they come in.

> 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

Listen: Moments to Remember

BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

68 PAGES

[Photo - see the full copy]

Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

COMPANION BOOK · IN HIS JOY

KENNETH ENGLE, WITH KEVIN ENGLE

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

In His Joy: The Life and Ministry of Ken Engle

Ken Engle's letters, with Kevin Engle's recollections, 1951–1987

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In His Joy

For thirty-six years Ken Engle wrote home to the people who prayed for him. He typed on whatever machine he had, kept a carbon, and nearly every time he ended the same way: **In HIS joy.** About twenty years ago Kevin and Gordon had the carbons scanned. There are 509 pages, from the 1940s to 1987, most of them addressed to the elders and the "Dear Ones at Woodside," Woodside Bible Chapel in Maywood, Illinois, the assembly that stood behind him all his life.

This book tells Dad's story from those letters, in his own order, year by year. Where the story goes beyond the letters, it comes from Kevin Engle's own memories and recollections of his father. The other volumes of this series tell the war years, the courtship, the house on Malvar Street, Evelyn and Rudy. This one tells the work: what he did, where, with whom, and what verse he was leaning on when he did it.

Almost every letter opens with a verse. Those verses are kept here with their references, the way he wrote them.

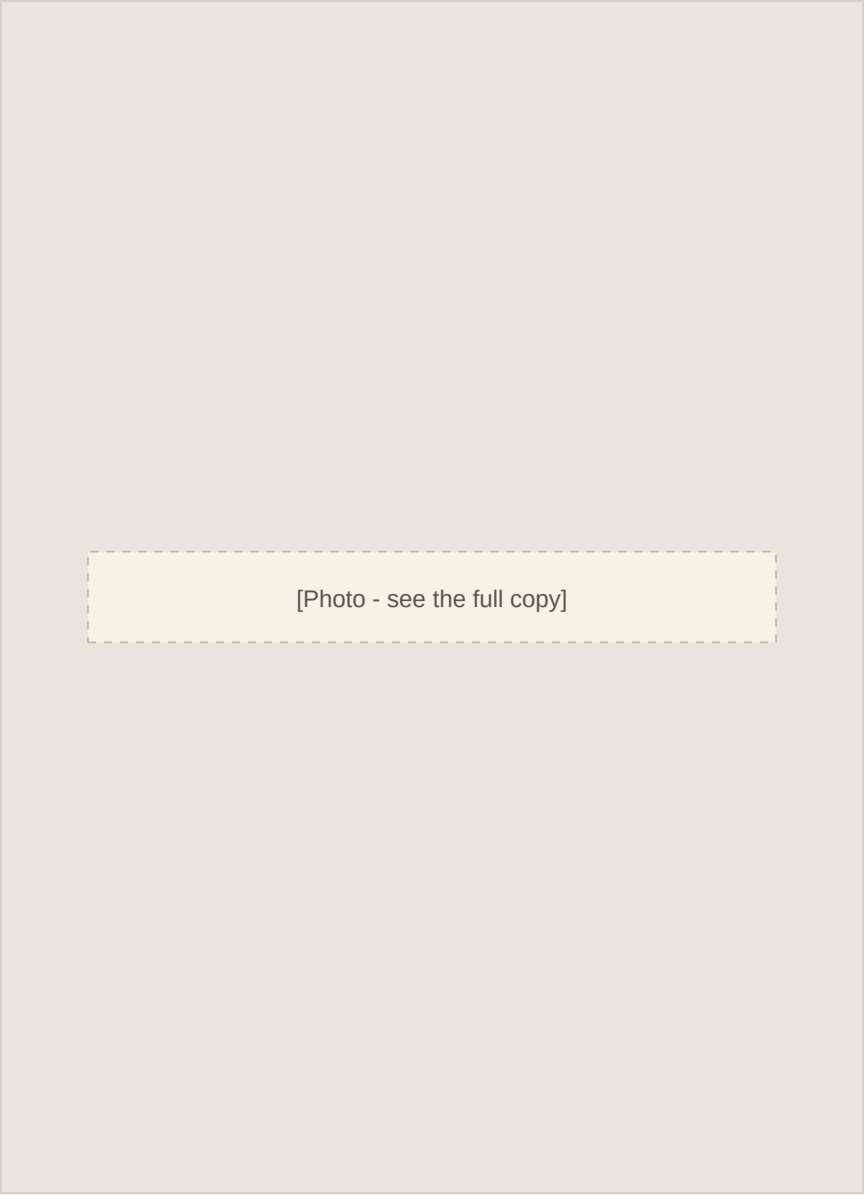
Wherever Dad's letters mention **Kevin** or **Karen**, the page says so. Both of them are serving in the Philippines today, and these letters show where that began.

> We proclaim Christ! We warn everyone we meet, and we teach everyone we can, all that we know about Him, so that, if possible, we may bring every man up to his full maturity in Christ Jesus.
>
> Colossians 1:28 (Phillips), at the head of Ken's letter of 10 October 1969

That verse hung on the wall of every office he ever had. *"It is a joy to be in the same type of work as he was doing in the first century,"* he wrote under it, *"…proclaiming, teaching, training."*

From Ken's letter to Woodside, 10 October 1969, and Kevin's memories.

The Plaque on Dad's Wall



Kevin with his Philippines mug, beneath the plaque that hung in every office Dad ever had (Colossians 1:28, "We proclaim Christ"), beside Dad's photo from his memorial service. The work goes on.

Kevin Engle's collection

The Prayer Meeting at Moody

1949 or 1950

When Dad was a student at Moody Bible Institute, he belonged to a prayer group that met to pray for China. That burden went back to his first year at Moody, when Harry Liu, a Chinese student, led a prayer meeting for China (see A Missionary from China). At the same time he had been writing back and forth with Cyril Brooks in the Philippines, and he was praying about whether the Lord wanted him there.

One night Dad asked some of the other Moody students to join him for an all-night prayer meeting. They prayed through until morning.

The next morning Dad went to his mailbox. Inside was a letter from Cyril Brooks, inviting him to come to the Philippines as a missionary. That letter had been on a ship for thirty days. It reached him the very morning after he had spent the night asking God for direction.

God had sent the answer a month before Dad finished asking for it.

“And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.”

Isaiah 65:24

From Kevin Engle’s recollections

PART ONE

The Manila Years

1951–1967 · San Juan · the Bible School of the Air · Binangonan

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Thirty-Six Years Ago Today

On 17 March 1987, a retired missionary in Kansas sat down to write the folks at Woodside and started with a date.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 17 March 1987

[Photo - see the full copy]

Dad comes off the launch, Saturday 17 March 1951, brought ashore from the freighter anchored in Manila Bay: his first day in the Philippines as a missionary.
Kevin Engle's collection

He kept that day all his life. In July 1976 he was reading in the Tagalog Bible the San Juan believers had given him at his welcome, on Mrs. Dayton's lawn. He copied the inscription into a letter: *"…sa pagkakataon ng kanyang pagdating sa San Juan, Marzo 17, 1951"* (on the occasion of his arrival in San Juan, March 17, 1951). *"Yes, 25 years ago,"* he added. *"I treasure this volume and thank the Lord for these 25 years."*

That first year he also spoke at the first servicemen's Bible conference in Manila. *"We had less than a dozen men at that conference,"* he remembered in 1968. Seventeen years later he would stand before 160.

From Ken's letters of 17 March 1987, 22 July 1976 and 30 July 1968.

The Bible School of the Air

Dad came out to work with Cyril and Anna Brooks, and the Brookses had a radio Bible school. In 1959 Ken wrote its history for Emmaus Bible School, whose courses it used.

> 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.
>
> Ken to John Smart, Emmaus, 27 May 1959

The first office was one small room under the Brooks house with two desks. By 1959 it had seven desks, 27 courses, *What the Bible Teaches* in seven languages, and 328,799 students enrolled. Filipino staff did most of the grading, on purpose: *"It is our desire that the nationals be prepared to carry on the work fully should we be forced to leave the field."*

Not every family welcomed the lessons. In 1954 Ken wrote that some students' lessons had to go *"in a special envelope with no indication that it is from the Bible School of the Air,"* because relatives destroyed them. *"Prayer is our best weapon."*

In May 1967 the school marked its seventeenth anniversary and its millionth student, at the Medical Science Hall in Manila. No one could say which student was the millionth, so Dad Brooks gave Bibles to four new ones. Ken gave the history.

From Ken's letters of 1954, 27 May 1959 and 15 May 1967.

Listen: Moments to Remember

On the Air at DZAS

[Photo - see the full copy]

[Photo - see the full copy]

Then and now. *Top: Ken Engle (left) and Ken Brooks, live on the air with "Question Time" at DZAS Manila, the gospel station of the Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC), about 1953. Bottom: the same two friends in 2009, Ken Brooks (left) and Ken Engle, not long before Ken went home to heaven.*
Kevin Engle's collection

Where No Evangelist Had Gone

In October 1964, while the Engles were in Illinois, a Filipino co-worker wrote Ken from San Juan about a trip he had just made to Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac.

He had found about thirty believers there, led by a man named Salvador Marcellano. Marcellano had picked up a gospel tract half buried in the mud, then enrolled with his neighbor in the Bible School of the Air courses. The group had grown out of the courses and the radio programs. No missionary had ever visited.

> The Lord can accomplish His work even without any direct or immediate human instrumentality. Here is a place where no evangelist, no pastor or worker has set foot in, and yet the Lord has enabled these people to come to know Him.
>
> letter to Ken from San Juan, 19 October 1964

They sang the songs they had learned over the radio.

Twenty-one years later, in Dallas, it happened again, to Ken's own son. See "Our Missionary in the Pacific."

> There are no comments. But you know the promises that His word will not return unto Him void!
>
> Ken, of his Bible-reading broadcasts, 2 September 1983 (Isaiah 55:11)

From a letter to Ken from San Juan Gospel Chapel, 19 October 1964.

The First Afternoon

The Christian Service Brigade is Rudy Ponce de Leon's story, told in its own book. But Ken kept its birthday. In January 1967 he wrote:

> We had our first meeting at the San Juan Elementary School on February 2nd, 1952.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 27 January 1967

For the fifteenth anniversary there was a field day for the whole battalion and a broadcast on DZAS. *"I will tell the same story on the air that I told that first afternoon fifteen years ago."*

The boys' club was only one of the San Juan works. There was a college group, some first met at camp, who called themselves "The Prayer Fellowship." There was "Youthtime," which in its first year saw *"around 150 who professed salvation or help in regard to assurance."* In 1963 the San Juan young people marked the streets in red on a hand-drawn map and put a tract in every home.

In 1960 an elder named Sofonias Clavecilla wrote from the little chapel in Pasadena, San Juan:

> As an elder of the church here in Pasadena, I salute you as the first missionary who planted the Word of God and the first to arrive in our place … The one you planted bore fruits.
>
> Sofonias Clavecilla to Ken, 24 October 1960

> The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
>
> 2 Timothy 2:2

From Ken's letters of 1963 and 27 January 1967, and Bro. Clavecilla's letter of 24 October 1960.

Born in San Juan

Karen. In the spring of 1972, from Kansas, Dad stopped in the middle of a letter to Woodside:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, April 1972

Kevin. In July 1958 Ken sent a photograph of the family with a report of his meetings on Mindanao: *"Kevin is now almost a year old."* Years later he told friends where each child was born: *"Both Stan and Kevin were born in San Juan Hospital, San Juan, Rizal."* Kevin began where the work began.

The family lived in San Juan from 1951 to 1967, near Camp Crame. *"We worked with the youth of the San Juan Gospel Chapel for so many years,"* Ken wrote in 1983.

From Ken's letters of 16 July 1958, April 1972, 7 December 1979 and 7 December 1983.

Binangonan

From 1957 to 1967 Ken's provincial work centered on **Binangonan**, a fishing town on Laguna de Bay. *"It was a thrill for us to see what the LORD has done there just since 1956 when they began,"* he wrote in 1968.

The believers built a new chapel in 1960. In the hot season of 1963 there were open-air meetings in a temporary shelter on a vacant lot in the fishing quarter, far from the chapel.

> "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.
>
> Ken to Beachwood Chapel, 2 April 1963 (Numbers 13:30, Berkeley)

That June, Binangonan held the first workers' conference it had ever had: more than fifty Sunday School teachers, elders, Brigade leaders and children's-class teachers. On 28 August 1966 the Binangonan believers opened a new work at **Taytay**, with Eugenio Tique, the elder and carpenter who built missionary homes and nearly built Faith Academy.

In April 1968 Ken baptized four in the lake while fishermen watched from their boats. One was Narciso Aguinaldo, a bulldozer operator at the cement plant. A shoe repairman gave him a tract, he mailed in the coupon, and a believer came to visit.

From Ken's letters of 1963, 29 August 1966, 20 March 1968 and 19 April 1968.

Eleven in the Lake

Kevin. On the last Lord's Day before the family left for America in July 1963, Ken baptized eleven young people at Binangonan. He took two of his children along, and one of them was Kevin, not quite six.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 25 July 1963

The family was going home because Mary Lou was ill. That same week a large gift for the trip came from Woodside, and Ken got the news at his desk at the Bible School of the Air. *"Right then I thanked Him."*

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

Ten years later, in September 1973, the family was back at Binangonan for "Family Sunday." Sixteen were baptized.

From Ken's letters of 25 July 1963 and about October 1973.

A Billboard, Large and Clear

> And the Lord said to me, "Write my answer on a billboard, large and clear, so that anyone can read it at a glance and rush to tell the others."
>
> Habakkuk 2:2 (Living Prophecies), at the head of Ken's letter of 3 March 1966

Ken had seen the Michigan brethren's gospel signs in 1963 and 1964. Driving west from Illinois in November 1965, he counted only six gospel billboards between Illinois and California. Back in Manila, Christ for Greater Manila put him in charge of its sign work.

> A gospel sign in a good location preaches 24 hours a day. … It can speak in any language.
>
> Ken, "A Billboard … Large and Clear," 1966

The first board went up on Rizal Avenue: *"I AM THE WAY…"* (John 14:6). A John 3:16 board was bulldozed and stolen, and later turned up as part of someone's roof. They got it back, repainted it and put it up again. The first Tagalog signboard went up in January 1967 with Acts 16:31. In July 1967 a double sign at Binangonan *"points in two directions. By means of the Tagalog verse, it points people to heaven. Then the arrow directs them to the Chapel."*

In December 1967 a sign ten feet by twenty-four went up on the main highway up the mountain to Baguio. Sammy, the Christian artist who painted it, rode beside it all the way. The landowner gave permission from his horse-drawn *karitela*.

> JESUS SAID, "COME UNTO ME…I WILL GIVE YOU REST."
> "ACQUAINT NOW THYSELF WITH HIM AND BE AT PEACE."
>
> the sign (Matthew 11:28; Job 22:21)

From Ken's letters and his article on gospel signs, 1966–68.

Cloudy Days

The years from 1963 to 1965 were hard ones. Mary Lou was ill, and the doctors sent her home for care. The elders at Woodside wrote, *"We are prepared to stand behind you completely in this problem."*

So Ken taught. From 9 September 1963 he was on the faculty of **Emmaus Bible School** in Oak Park, Illinois, in both the freshman and the upper classes. In August 1965 WMBI put him back on the air for four evening messages. *"It was a thrill to do a little microphone work again,"* he wrote to Rudy.

> I THE LORD HAVE CALLED THEE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND WILL KEEP THEE. I have seen the Lord do this for 15 years.
>
> Ken to Rudy Ponce de Leon, 13 August 1965 (Isaiah 42:6)

In December 1965 the doctor gave his approval, and the whole family flew back to Manila. A year later Ken looked back:

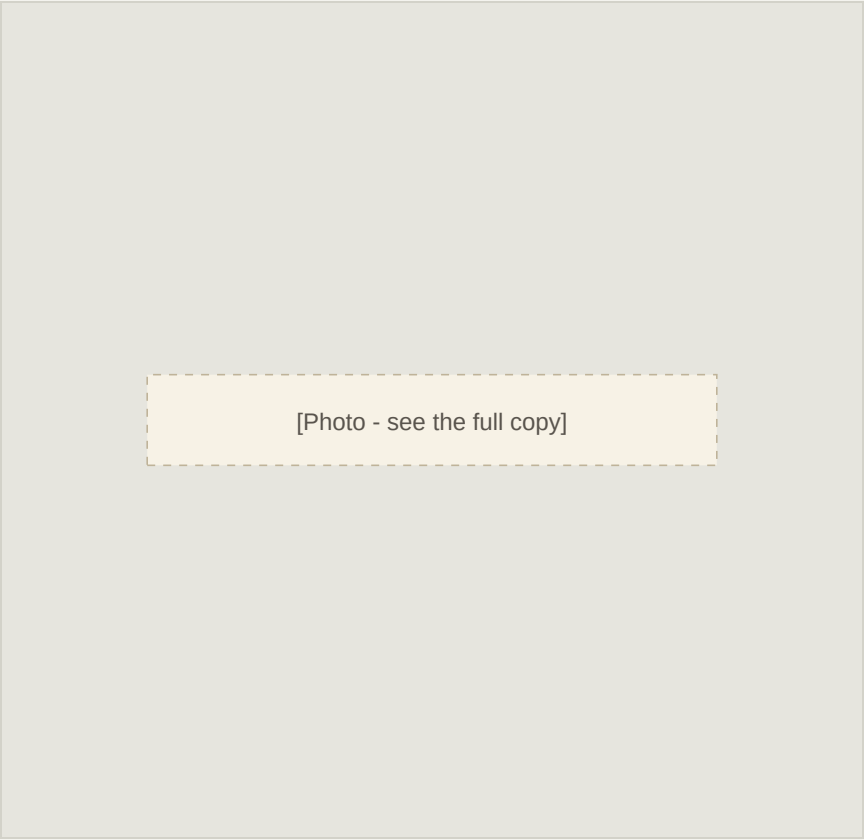
> It was just a year ago today that our plane touched down at Manila International Air Port … It has been a good year. However, it has not been a year of all sunshine. There have been cloudy days … it is good to know that "back of the clouds the sun is always shining."
>
> Ken to Woodside, December 1966

In 1966 he began his own program on DZAS, **Living Letters**: fifteen minutes of the New Testament read aloud with music, starting in First Corinthians.

From the Emmaus Bible School newsletter, autumn 1963, and Ken's letters of 1963–66.

A New Mission

Kevin. On 5 September 1965, just before the family went back to the Philippines from furlough, Kevin was saved at Woodside Bible Chapel in Maywood, Illinois, the assembly that stood behind Dad all his life. Mrs. Wallace Logan, a missionary to Africa, led him to the Lord. From that day he had a new mission.



Kevin, about eight, at the reins of a calesa in the Philippines, taken shortly after he was saved on 5 September 1965: a boy with a new mission. That mission goes on today, taking the gospel to the Philippines on digital Bibles through keepm.org, and Kevin is getting ready to go back for the first time since 1993.

Kevin Engle's collection and Kevin's memories

PART TWO

Give Us This Mountain

1967–1975 · Baguio · Kansas · and back

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

A Whole New Mission Field

Volume Three tells how the family came to 55 Malvar. Three months after the move, Ken wrote to Countryside Bible Chapel near Boston, the people who had sent him a gift for radio:

> We have been given a whole new mission field with great new opportunities.
>
> Ken to Countryside Bible Chapel, 7 September 1967

DZAS could not be heard in Baguio; another station blocked it. So Ken started a program of his own. **Moments of Melody** went on the air on **1 October 1967**, at six in the morning, over **DZBS**, Baguio's commercial station: five minutes of a gospel song, a short thought and a reading from Scripture, *"to help you start your day and help you think beyond today."* For his Catholic listeners he read from the Knox Bible.

Then the program spread, and he had not asked for any of it.

> 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.
>
> Ken, spring 1968

There were 250 programs on seven stations in April 1968, and 320 on ten by that September. By October 1969 there were 460 programs on seventeen stations, from Baguio to Mindanao, and KSAB on Okinawa. On Holy Thursday 1969 the two Baguio stations played the special crucifixion series every half hour. The chaplain of the USS *Tripoli* used it at sunrise prayers.

From Ken's letters of 7 September and 9 October 1967, 19 April and 16 September 1968, and 4 April and 10 October 1969.

Listen: Moments to Remember

My Boys Help Me

> For it is God who is at work within you, giving you the will and the power to achieve His purpose.
>
> Philippians 2:13, at the head of Ken's letter of 14 July 1981

The children's program came first. On 2 September 1967 Ken was sponsoring the *Children's Bible Hour* from Grand Rapids on DZBS, with sixty seconds at the end for a Baguio address. The children wrote in by the hundreds.

Kevin. About 1970 Ken described the program for his supporters:

> However, we add local announcements and the children write to us here. My boys, Kevin and Stanley, help me with the program.
>
> Ken, "Radio Philippines," about 1970

Kevin was about twelve. By 1974 he was working in his father's studio himself. See "Gospel Dimensions."

Mary Lou and Ken sponsored the *Children's Bible Hour* from 1967 for as long as they lived in the Philippines and long after. Lino Aragon of Binangonan answered the letters. They came from the Philippines, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Malaysia, and from Vietnam and Cambodia *"until those countries fell."*

From Ken's letters of about 1970, 12 June 1975 and 29 March 1979.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Kevin at the Microphone

[Photo - see the full copy]

“Dad had me doing radio early!” Kevin, about eleven, on the air at DZBS/DZAH on Harrison Road, Baguio City, in 1968. Rudy Aguilar, the station’s sound engineer and manager, was on the other side of the glass, just out of sight; the lady working sound with him can be seen through it.
Kevin Engle’s collection

The Four B's

> Behold, I will do a new thing … I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.
>
> Isaiah 43:19, the verse the Lord gave Ken in January 1967

In January 1968 Ken summed up the year in one line:

> We have often asked prayer for three B's. (Broadcasting, Brigade and Binangonan) Now we add a fourth: Baguio!
>
> Ken, January 1968

Baguio was where the war came on leave. Servicemen on rest and recreation from Viet Nam came up the mountain, and twice a year there was a servicemen's Bible conference. In October 1967 Ken spoke at the thirty-second. In July 1968, at the thirty-fourth, about 160 came, from Viet Nam, Guam, Taiwan, Okinawa, Clark and Cubi Point. Ken taught Philippians every morning at eight. A young Jewish sailor from Guam stood and said he had trusted Jesus *"as His Savior and Messiah."*

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 30 July 1968

From Ken's letters of 9 October 1967, January 1968 and 30 July 1968.

Pray That This War Would Be Over

In late 1967 nine men from the cruiser USS *Canberra* came to Bible studies in the Engle home. One of them wrote later from the Gulf of Tonkin.

Kevin. The sailor took a liking to ten-year-old Kevin, *"because he has a son about the same age,"* and wrote to him personally:

> `And do us a favor if you would. Pray that this war would be over soon so we could all go home to our families in the USA.`
>
> a sailor of the USS *Canberra*, in a letter to Kevin, quoted by Ken, 10 January 1968

Under it Ken wrote a prayer:

> `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.`
>
> Ken to Woodside, 10 January 1968

Eight years later the boy who got that letter came back to Baguio himself as an American sailor and a Christian.

From Ken's letter to Woodside of 10 January 1968.

Except the Lord Build the House

Evelyn Balanag's story has its own book. Here is the church that grew out of it, in Ken's letters.

In February 1968, a few doors from the Engles, Evelyn finished the twelve lessons of *What the Bible Teaches* in two days. That week she came to Christ. *"It is one of the most thrilling experiences we have ever had in the service of the Lord,"* Ken wrote. *"The Lord did it all."* Her husband Fred followed. Their friends came to the house, and by October there was a Sunday class in the Engle living room.

Karen. Ken described those Sunday classes in October 1968:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 17 October 1968

Karen was thirteen, and already teaching Filipino children their Bible lessons. When the classes became a Sunday School and Family Bible Hour in August 1969, she had her own class. When the little church held its first baptism, Karen was baptized with Fred and Evelyn Balanag and the two sergeants from the Philippine Military Academy (Volume Three).

> Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it.
>
> Psalm 127:1, closing Ken's report of the new Sunday School, 1969

Listen: Mom's Piano

They averaged thirty-five, and one Sunday sixty-two came. By 1970 they had outgrown the living room and moved to a quonset hut on Navy Road, which the military men painted themselves.

> It is often much easier to look back on the guidance of the Lord than to move forward into it.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 17 October 1968

Kevin. *"The Baguio Battalion is encouraging,"* Ken wrote the Brigade office in June 1969. *"My boy, Kevin, is in the group here."*

From Ken's letters of 29 February, 17 October 1968 and June–October 1969.

Bibles for the Cadets

Up the road from Baguio is the Philippine Military Academy, *"the West Point of the Philippines."* Two of its sergeants, Ruperto Jaleco and Marcos Badilla, were among the first in the little church, and they brought soldiers with them.

The Bibles for the graduating cadets began, as Kevin remembers it, about 1968. The first presentation Ken describes in his letters was in March 1970, when he and officers of the Officers' Christian Union from Clark Field gave American Tract Society Bibles to sixty-five graduating cadets. It became a yearly gift. In January 1974 the graduating class was *"the largest class ever."*

> 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!
>
> Ken to Woodside, 24 January 1974

When the Engles left, Cyril Brooks carried it on. In 1978 he gave Bibles to 139 graduates.

In 1972 Ken wrote to President Marcos himself, recalling the day in Baguio when he and Fred Balanag gave the President the Living books:

> 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.
>
> Ken to President Ferdinand Marcos, 13 March 1972

[Photo - see the full copy]

Fred Balanag presents the Living books to President Ferdinand Marcos at the Baguio airport, Sunday 12 May 1968. Ken bought them at the OMF bookshop, and Mary Lou wrote in them.

Kevin Engle's collection

From Ken's letters of 25 March 1970, 13 March 1972, 24 January 1974 and 5 April 1978.

Ten Thousand Miles Away

The family went home on furlough on 27 May 1970, planning on a year. It stretched to three, so the children could finish school.

But the radio work did not stop. With a studio recorder the ladies of Workers Together sent him, Ken recorded in the farmhouse and mailed the tapes to Manila.

> 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.
>
> Ken, fall 1971

The Living series grew to *Living Psalms* and *Living Proverbs*, and a new verse-by-verse series began, *Moments of Meditation*. When President Marcos declared martial law on 21 September 1972 and closed the stations, *"the missionary station, DZAS, was the first non-government station to return to the air,"* still playing Ken's tapes. A man in India wrote twice about *Moments of Melody*.

> So little is much when God is in it!
>
> Ken to Countryside Bible Chapel, 20 March 1972

He found Kansas just as open. *"I had to go overseas to be able to come home and get into some of these places,"* he wrote. There were the Lions Club and Rotary, and KABI, where *Moments of Melody* became Abilene's morning program.

> God … hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will.
>
> Acts 22:14, Ken's verse for 1972

From Ken's letters of 1971–72.

Listen: Moments to Remember

A Kansas Furlough

Karen. In February 1972 Ken told the elders his family news. *"Karen is teaching a Sunday School class at the Chapel. She also played the guitar and accompanied the young people that sang at the last film showing."* She was sixteen, and the chapel was Grace and Truth, where Dad had grown up.

Kevin. The same letter:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 10 February 1972

That June, harvest:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 27 June 1972

> I will try to walk a blameless path, but how I need your help, especially in my own home, where I long to act as I should.
>
> Psalm 101:2 (Living Psalms), at the head of Ken's letter of March 1972

From Ken's letters of 10 February, March and 27 June 1972.

Back to the Mountain

The family left Kansas on 23 June 1973. A visa they had kept *"in force since 1957"* was renewed by a telephone call from Ken Brooks in Manila.

> We just look back and marvel at all the LORD has done since we left Kansas June 23rd.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 10 September 1973

The believers were meeting in a home, with the Family Bible Hour in the carport. In January 1974 they moved into the auditorium of St. Theresa's College, a closed Catholic school. One of its buildings had housed General Yamashita during the war. *"We are interested in a different kind of treasure,"* Ken wrote.

> If the Spirit of Him who raised Christ Jesus from the dead lives within you He will, by the same Spirit, bring to your whole being new strength and vitality.
>
> Romans 8:11 (Phillips), on the wall of Ken's studio, "a good verse for 1974"

That first November there was a baptism: two Brigade boys, a young couple from the neighborhood, an OMF missionary, and one of Ken's own sons.

From Ken's letters of 2 May, 10 September and 26 November 1973 and 24 January 1974.

Gospel Dimensions

This time the Engles had a recording studio at home, off Ken's office. He made the fifteen-minute programs there, and the five-minute ones, and something new: one-minute spots called **Moments to Remember**. In October 1973 FEBC in Manila asked for all of them. *"We have all agreed that they are very excellent."*

> I probably sounded casual when you told me that they liked Moment to Remember. Actually I was thrilled.
>
> Ken to Glynn and Lela Dean, FEBC, 26 October 1973

Kevin. In April 1974 Ken wrote his parents in Kansas:

> 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.
>
> Ken to his mother and dad, 23 April 1974

Kevin was sixteen. That December he was helping start a Bible class on the Brent School campus. Fifty years later the boy who spliced the tapes put his father's voice back on the air. KEEPM.org Radio plays Dad's programs around the clock (Volume Five).

Listen: Moments to Remember

> 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.
>
> Ken to Glynn Dean, 18 February 1974

From Ken's letters of 16 and 26 October 1973, 3 December 1973, 18 February and 23 April 1974.

Short-Term Missionaries

Karen. In the summer of 1974, nineteen-year-old Karen and her sister came out from Emmaus Bible School for two months. Woodside sent them, and Ken called them *"short term missionaries from Woodside."* They landed at Manila International Airport on Monday, 24 June.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Glynn and Lela Dean, 16 September 1974

Her sister typed for Ken and wrote scripts for *Moments to Remember*. Karen went to the ladies' Bible class with Mary Lou and worked with the children and the young people. Children's classes, music, teaching the teachers: it was the kind of work she would come back to do for many years on Romblon.

That summer the servicemen's conference met at John Hay Air Base, and VBS at the Navy Road chapel drew ninety children.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, September 1974

From Ken's letters of 27 June, 16 and 20 September 1974.

They Could Be on Their Own

> The name Baguio means "storm."
>
> Ken, November 1974, after a month of typhoons

The last Baguio winter was full. An Australian team from Gospel Literature Outreach came for four months, and there was a six-day Bible school with eight classes a day. *"The two married men that did not miss a session attended 48 classes."* A new home Bible class met among the Ibaloy, *"the original peoples of Baguio."*

In March 1975 Ken wrote something new:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Glynn and Lela Dean, 19 March 1975

On 1 May 1975 he wrote the elders at Woodside that it was time to go home, for Mary Lou's sake. They had prayed five years for land for a chapel.

> Interestingly it was 21 days later that the opportunity to get land for the Chapel came to us.
>
> Ken, looking back, 10 June 1977

The land was bought before they left. Building began on 15 September 1975, and on 14 December 1975 the **Christian Fellowship Gospel Chapel**, on Morning Glory Street, opened. Fred Balanag chaired its elders. *"This comes after seven years of the gospel going forth in that area,"* Ken wrote.

> 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.
>
> Ken to the Woodside elders, 10 June 1977

From Ken's letters of 1974–77.

PART THREE

Still Sending

1975–1987 · Abilene, Kansas · and the Philippines by mail and by air

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Our Missionary in the Pacific

Kevin. Kevin joined the Navy at Subic in May 1975, and soon he was back in the Philippines. Ken's letters from then on are full of him.

> 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.
>
> Ken, summer 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.
>
> Ken, 22 July 1976

> Our missionary in the Pacific area at this time is our son, Kevin.
>
> Ken to Colton Gospel Chapel, 30 October 1976

On the supply ship USS *White Plains*, Kevin and one other Christian ran the services and showed gospel films on the ship's closed-circuit television. The Baguio believers wrote the Engles how much his visits encouraged them, and *"how impressed they were with Kevin's maturity."*

In 1977 he took a shipmate named Rick, from the carrier *Midway*, up to Baguio. On the way back to the ship, past the bars, Rick spoke of how empty that life was, and Kevin asked him about his soul.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 2 March 1977

> Rick finished *What the Bible Teaches* and sent a cassette recorder to the chapel in Baguio. By December 1977 Kevin had made *"probably his sixth visit to the Philippines since he has been in the Navy."*

From Ken's letters of 1976–77.

Fruit in Dallas

Kevin. In April 1985 the telephone rang in Abilene.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, April 1985

A course his father had helped mail out of a room in Manila came back to his son in Texas thirty years later. That September Ken added that Kevin was teaching a Sunday School class at Wheatland Bible Chapel *"and is often given the opportunity to speak at the Family Bible Hour."*

The next summer Ken reported *"the big event of recent days … the wedding of Kevin our oldest son to Cheryl Ferris"*; her parents had been missionaries in Korea, and *"the two dads performed the ceremony."*

From Ken's letters of April and September 1985 and summer 1986.

Radio from the Wheat Fields

> Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
>
> Romans 10:18, at the head of Ken's prayer letter, December 1977

Ken recorded in the basement of Grace and Truth Gospel Chapel, ten miles out of town, because *"the nearest house is over a half mile away."*

- **The Emmaus Bible Hour.** Emmaus asked him to turn its correspondence courses into fifteen-minute programs. The first aired on KABI on Sunday, 14 January 1979. By 1981 there was a full year of them, built on *What the Bible Teaches*, *Guide to Christian Growth*, *Lessons for Christian Living* and *Summary of the Bible*. By 1986 there were two years, heard from Georgia to Nova Scotia. That year he airmailed the scripts to Rudy in Manila, who called them *"an answer to prayer."*
- **The Bible, read aloud.** For FEBC he read the whole New Testament, then the Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah and more, with no comment. It aired Sunday mornings at 10:30 in Manila and in 1986 also from Iba, Zambales. *"There are no comments. But you know the promises that His word will not return unto Him void!"* (Isaiah 55:11)
- **At home.** A five-minute sermonette on KABI some 732 times, *"Outreach"* with Christian businessmen, and Bible lessons on cable Channel 8. In 1980 he chaired Abilene's public-access television.

In 1980 a fire at the Back to the Bible office in Manila destroyed about a hundred master tapes, *"tapes that we have used over and over and even made copies and sent to other stations."* He kept recording.

Listen: Moments to Remember

> Let us never be satisfied to be "receivers" but may we also be "transmitters."
>
> Ken to Woodside, 30 March 1976 (1 Thessalonians 1:8)

From Ken's letters of 1976–86.

Don't Worry If It's Hard to Pronounce

From Kansas Ken kept sending: Sunday School and VBS materials to Binangonan and Baguio, cassette libraries, and books. The Walterick publishers in Kansas City gave books free, and by 1983 about fifty Filipino workers and elders had complete sets of William MacDonald's Old Testament commentary. He helped pay for students at the short-term Bible school north of Manila, where former Brigade boys now taught.

He asked his supporters to pray for the two places by name.

> Don't worry if it's hard to pronounce the names of the places. The LORD will know what you are praying about!
>
> Ken to the Lees, Junction City, 25 February 1981

In 1985 he chose the photographs and wrote the captions for *Grace Triumphant*, the life of Cyril Brooks. Dad and Mom Brooks died in 1986, two months apart. *"They took us into their home and coached us in our early days there."* That February, during People Power, FEBC stayed on the air around the clock at full power.

> 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??
>
> Ken to Woodside, 13 March 1986

From Ken's letters of 1981–86.

Our Own Representative

Karen. In June 1985 Karen flew to Manila with the summer team of International Teams, which her cousin Mark Dyer led there. Ken wrote Woodside:

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, June 1985

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 11 July 1985

She helped in a clinic and at the Bible camp north of Manila, and her team went to all three of the places her parents had worked: San Juan, Binangonan and Baguio. She came home with gifts from Filipino friends. *"Binangonan especially seem to be going forward,"* Ken reported.

> For about 25 years we served as overseas missionaries … a number of our children are now interested in missions.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 18 September 1985

From Ken's letters of June, 11 July and 18 September 1985.

Only Eternity Will Show

About 1983 Woodside asked its missionaries a question: what difference did it make? Ken wrote about the boys' club. An older Filipino, not yet a believer, had asked him for one when Ken was still learning the language. The boys came to Christ and were trained, and then they trained others. Rudy, Pete, Reny, Lino and Eliseo became elders, broadcasters, translators and leaders.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, about 1983

He had said it another way in 1965:

> As missionaries some of us sowed some of the early seeds. But now is the time for it to have a full Filipino flavor.
>
> Ken to Rudy Ponce de Leon, 13 August 1965

And in 1987, writing about a Philippine ambassador who had been sent off to Washington as *"a missionary for Christ disguised as an ambassador"*:

> We all need to be missionaries, I feel is the bottom line.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 17 March 1987

From Ken's letters of 13 August 1965, about 1983 and 17 March 1987.

The Mountain, Again

> Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.
>
> Jeremiah 33:3, "a verse that keeps coming to mind in 1987"

Ken went home to the Lord on 5 November 2009. He never saw what came next.

Karen went back. She served in the Philippines from 1990 to 1995, and again from 2012, on the island of Romblon: children's work, the ministries of the local church, and a bake shop where she trained people in a skill and a way to earn a living. Her husband Patrick served beside her and helped translate some of William MacDonald's writing. When the Lord took Patrick home in 2026, Karen chose to keep on, and she is going back. The girl who taught the children in the living room on Malvar Street, and taught the girls at the chapel guitar in 1974, has served in the Philippines longer than any of Ken and Mary Lou's children.

Kevin went back too, the way his father had: by radio first. The boy who spliced tapes in the Baguio studio and made *Gospel Dimensions* now runs **KEEPM.org**, KEE Philippine Missions, with Dad's programs on the air day and night, and audio Bibles for Filipinos who memorize Scripture. In 2026 he retired to give himself to it, and he is going back to the Philippines alongside Karen. Dad called him *"our missionary in the Pacific"* when Kevin was a nineteen-year-old sailor. Fifty years later it is still true.

Some of us sowed the early seeds, Dad wrote. The seeds are still coming up, and two of the children who watched him sow them have gone back to the field.

In HIS joy.

From Ken's letter of February 1987 and Kevin's memories (October 2026).

Christian Servicemen's Centers

Ken Engle first saw the Philippines as a serviceman himself, a B-24 tail gunner in 1945. When he came back as a missionary in March 1951, some of the first people he served were American servicemen a long way from home.

Soon after he landed he met **Jesse Miller**. Miller had been an Army mechanic at Clark Field when the war began. He survived the Bataan Death March and years as a prisoner of war in Japan, went to Bible school, and came back to the Philippines as a missionary. In 1954 he and his wife Nettie founded the **Overseas Christian Servicemen's Centers** (today Cadence International): homes away from home where a soldier or sailor could find a meal, a Bible study and Christian friends.

Ken was there near the beginning. In his testimony, recorded at John Hay in 1973, he said he helped with the **GI Gospel Hour**, started a Friday-night Bible class for Navy men at **Sangley Point**, and spoke at the first servicemen's conference, held in the fall of 1951 with only a handful of men.

> 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.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 9 October 1967

Sangley Point and Cavite

Sangley Point was the U.S. Navy station on the point of Cavite, across Manila Bay. Ken kept going down to the Navy men there for years. On 11 March 1966 his diary records a full day: a Tagalog lesson, a period at the language school, and then, at half past two, he and Marvin Graves drove to the American Embassy, caught a boat down to Sangley Point, and he spoke on the Quiet Time. He got home at a quarter past eleven that night.

Mary Lou and the children went too. In March 1960 the letter from the Woodside elders approving their furlough arrived just as the family was leaving with Ken for Cavite, for a meeting of Navy servicemen and their wives.

> `I brought it to the car on the run.`
>
> Ken to the Christians of Woodside Bible Chapel, 15 March 1960

In July 1962 he spoke at a servicemen's conference in Baguio. The next spring a serviceman in Japan heard his fifteen-minute radio program and wrote asking for lessons, for himself and for a friend.

Twice a Year in Baguio

When the family moved to Baguio in 1967, the servicemen came to them. Baguio was where men on rest and recreation from Viet Nam came up the mountain, and twice a year the servicemen's centers held a Bible conference there.

In October 1967 Ken spoke at the thirty-second, with over a hundred men from Okinawa, Viet Nam and the Philippine bases. A month later a group from an aircraft carrier just back from the war zone spent an evening in the Engle home, and a base chaplain telephoned to ask Ken to take charge of a three-day conference on the Air Base. In January 1968 Dad Brooks was a main speaker, and Ken spoke on "Missions in the Philippines." They set out a display of Emmaus courses and sold more than ninety, to men from Viet Nam, Okinawa, Taiwan, Guam and the Philippines.

In July 1968, at the thirty-fourth, the theme was "A Relevant God for a Restless Age." About 160 came. Ken taught Philippians every morning at eight, and four men professed faith in Christ. Read more: "The Four B's" → "Pray That This War Would Be Over" →

Men from the First Conference

The handful of men at that first conference in 1951 did not forget it. By October 1967 Ken could write that at least two of them were now running servicemen's centers themselves.

In the summer of 1971, home on furlough, Ken and Mary Lou went to a servicemen's conference in Colorado, with about 160 there, and met men they had known in the Philippines. One of them had been saved at the original Manila conference. He was now directing servicemen's centers in Panama and in the Philippines.

At the August 1969 conference Ken and Ken Brooks helped with the seminars. Men from all over Southeast Asia, Viet Nam included, bought the *What the Bible Teaches* charts to lead Bible studies on their own bases. And in February 1970 Mary Lou spoke to about sixty servicemen's wives on retreat at John Hay Air Base, where she had been organist at the base chapel.

John Hay, 1974

Back in Baguio in 1973, Ken took up the conferences again. In February 1974 about seventy-five came; he helped with a seminar and spoke at the closing breaking of bread. Then he gave about twenty-five servicemen and their wives a tour of Baguio, and Mary Lou served them cupcakes. In March the two of them held a conference for servicemen's wives.

That July the conference met at John Hay Air Base, with Dr. Gary Collins of Trinity as speaker and the theme "Made Whole in Christ." Ken led the Bible hour at eight each morning.

> 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.
>
> Ken, in MISSIONS magazine, May–June 1974

In September more than a hundred came, from Clark, Subic and Navy ships; a chaplain from the carrier *Oriskany* wrote to thank them. Another conference opened 1975.

A Center at Fort Riley

Even in Kansas, Ken kept looking for servicemen. Fort Riley, the big Army post, is a few miles from Abilene, next to Junction City. On 28 November 1971 Mary Lou wrote in her diary:

> Dick Patty called - coming in Wednesday to look over Junction City for Service men' Center.
>
> Mary Lou, 28 November 1971

Two weeks later Ken asked the Woodside believers to pray about a servicemen's center at Fort Riley. He was working on it with a Junction City policeman and his wife, and they had surveyed the town with a representative of the Overseas Christian Servicemen's Centers.

The friendships lasted. In January 1983 two men from the servicemen's centers, Bob Hingham and Sid Henry, stopped in Abilene for breakfast, and Ken wrote of friends with ties to "Nettie and Jessie Miller."

The Gospel Hour at Clark Field

Kevin. In May 1975 Kevin joined the Navy at Subic. That September, after boot camp, Ken wrote that he was in fellowship at Laurel Chapel and helping at the **Servicemen's Center in San Diego**.

The next spring Kevin was back in the Philippines on the USS *White Plains*. On 8 May 1976 Ken wrote the Woodside believers that Kevin planned to go to the Gospel Hour at the **Christian Servicemen's Center at Clark Field**, and then up to Baguio. He likened it to Paul sending Timothy back to Thessalonica.

Twenty-five years after Ken spoke to a handful of men at the first conference, his son was one of the servicemen at the center. Read more: "Our Missionary in the Pacific" →

Photographs to be added.

From Ken's 1973 testimony tape; his letters of 1960–1983 and diary of 11 March 1966 (in Gordon's story "Thrilled"); the MISSIONS magazine prayer pages of 1974; Mary Lou's 1971 diary. On Jesse Miller, his obituary in the Denver Post, 2001.

Ken and His Cameras: Just for Fun

[Photo - see the full copy]

Photographs We Wish Our Father Had Taken: The Camera Artistry of Kenneth Ercil Engle, by Kevin Leonard Engle and Gordon Scott Engle.
Cover, Kevin Engle's collection

Dad was seldom without a camera. He left some thirty thousand photographs and slides. This book, still in progress, is just for fun.

In progress. More to be added later.

Milestones

1924	Born 9 November, on the farm south of Abilene, Kansas
1942	Wins first place in the national FFA public-speaking contest, Kansas City, with "Food, Our Weapon"
1943–45	Army Air Forces; B-24 tail gunner, Fifth Air Force, over the Philippines
1946–50	Moody Bible Institute; student announcer on WMBI
1950	Commended to the Lord's work by Austin Gospel Hall, Chicago, and Grace and Truth Gospel Chapel, Abilene
1951	17 March: ashore in Manila; Bible School of the Air; speaks at the first servicemen's conference
1952	2 February: first Brigade meeting, San Juan Elementary School
1953	26 April: marries Mary Lou Leonard, San Juan Gospel Hall
1955	Karen born in San Juan; first furlough

San Juan Gospel Hall, Manila, where Ken and Mary Lou were married on 26 April 1953. Kevin believes the man in white in the doorway, facing away, is Dad.

Kevin Engle's collection

1957	Back in Manila, 10 January; Kevin born in San Juan; Binangonan years begin
1958	Evangelistic meetings on Mindanao
1959	Teaches at FEBIAS; the Bible School of the Air passes 328,000 students
1960	Binangonan builds its chapel; furlough
1962	Tenth anniversary of the Brigade; Highland Bible Conference
1963	Billy Graham Manila crusade; eleven baptized at Binangonan; home for Mary Lou's health; Emmaus Bible School faculty, 9 September
1965	WMBI "Bread of Life" messages; back to Manila in December
1966	*Living Letters* on DZAS; gospel signboards; Taytay work begins 28 August
1967	First Tagalog signboard; Brigade's fifteenth anniversary; BSA's millionth student; "Give Us This Mountain," 3 June; Baguio; *Children's Bible Hour* on DZBS, 2 September; *Moments of Melody* begins 1 October

Milestones, continued

1968	Evelyn and Fred Balanag saved; home Bible classes; Karen teaching the children
1969	Sunday School and Family Bible Hour in the living room; *Moments of Melody* on 17 stations
1970	Quonset hut on Navy Road; Bibles to 65 PMA cadets (the yearly gift began about 1968); furlough from 27 May
1970–73	Abilene; "more broadcast hours than ever before"
1972	Martial law; DZAS first back on the air
1973	Back to Baguio, June; *Moments to Remember*
1974	St. Theresa's College hall; Kevin's *Gospel Dimensions*; Karen a short-term missionary
1975	Short-term Bible school; leaves the field in June; Christian Fellowship Gospel Chapel opens 14 December
1976–77	Kevin, "our missionary in the Pacific," visits Baguio; leads Rick to the Lord
1978	Commended to the work in the homeland by Grace and Truth
1979	*Emmaus Bible Hour* first airs, 14 January
1980	Master tapes lost in the Back to the Bible fire, Manila
1985	Karen with International Teams in the Philippines; *Grace Triumphant*
1986	People Power; Emmaus scripts to Rudy
1987	"It was 36 years ago today…"
2009	Goes home to the Lord, 5 November, Abilene
2026	KEEPM.org Radio; Kevin and Karen back to the Philippines

Days Dad Remembered

He kept anniversaries the way other people keep birthdays. A few of them, in his words:

- *"It was twenty years ago this summer that I was commended to the work of the Lord."* (April 1970)
- *"It is sixteen years since I first came to the Philippines."* (June 1967)
- *"Speaking of history, it was just 14 years ago that we were in Baguio on our honeymoon at this very same time of the year."* (May 1967)
- *"We celebrated the 17th anniversary of the Bible School of the Air and the enrolling of the millionth student."* (May 1967)
- *"By the way, we celebrated our tenth year in Brigade work with a special meeting in March."* (1962)
- *"It was just a year ago today that our plane touched down at Manila International Air Port."* (December 1966)
- *"We have been engaged in the broadcasting ministry for the past sixteen years over DZAS."* (September 1967)
- *"Twenty Five years ago I went to the Philippines as a missionary. Thirty one years ago I was there for my country."* (1976)
- *"I recall your Chapel as being one of my stops just before I went to the Philippines as a missionary for the first time twenty-five years ago."* (October 1976)
- *"It is now about 32 years since I first said goodbye to you there and set sail for the Philippines."* (December 1982)
- *"It has been ten years now since we have been in the Philippines."* (July 1985)
- *"It was 36 years ago today that I began my missionary work in the Philippines."* (17 March 1987)

Dad's Verses

His verse for the year

- **1967** Isaiah 43:19, "Behold, I will do a new thing"
- **1970** Nehemiah 2:20, "arise and build"
- **1972** Acts 22:14, "chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will"
- **1974** Romans 8:11 (Phillips), on his studio wall
- **1979** Deuteronomy 32:3, "I will proclaim the name of the Lord"
- **1980** Psalm 96:3–4, "Tell of His glory among the nations"
- **1984** Psalm 105:1, "Make known His deeds among the peoples"
- **1985** Deuteronomy 33:27, "Underneath are the everlasting arms." (*"Come to think of it we need that verse every year."*)
- **1987** Jeremiah 33:3, "Call to me and I will answer you"

Verses at the head of his letters

Psalm 84:11 and Ruth 1:16 (the wedding verses, 1953) · Numbers 13:30 (1963) · Isaiah 50:4 (1963) · Isaiah 26:3 (1963) · Proverbs 1:33 (1964) · Isaiah 42:6 (1965) · I Corinthians 15:58 (1965) · Habakkuk 2:2 (1966) · Joshua 14:12 (1967) · Isaiah 66:2 (1967) · Job 34:32 (1967) · Philippians 4:4–7 · Ephesians 5:17 (1968) · II Corinthians 4:7 (1968) · Isaiah 40:29–31 (1969) · Psalm 127:1 (1969) · Colossians 1:28 (1969) · Psalm 32:8 (1970) · Jeremiah 10:23–24 (1970) · John 1:12–13 (1971) · Psalm 9:1 (1971) · Psalm 101:2 (1972) · James 5:16 (1972) · Psalm 139:3 (1972) · I Thessalonians 1:8 (1973, 1976) · Colossians 1:10 · Psalm 67:1–2 (1976) · Romans 10:18 (1977) · Acts 26:17–18 (1978) · Philippians 2:13 (1981)

Answers for Volume Five

Volume Five, on Dad's radio work, ended with open questions. The letters answer some of them.

- **When did Moments of Melody begin, and where?** On 1 October 1967, at 6 a.m., over DZBS in Baguio. It went on FEBC's DZFE in Manila that November.
- **Moments to Remember?** One-minute spots, begun in Baguio in late 1973 on a commercial station. In October 1973 FEBC asked for all of them, and in 1974 they also ran on DZBS.
- **The FFA award?** In 1942. Ken won the regional contest in Chicago on 10 August with a speech called "Food, Our Weapon," and then first place in the national contest at the FFA convention in Kansas City that October.
- **The Living series?** *Living Letters* began on DZAS in 1966, starting in First Corinthians. Then came *Living Gospels* (1968), *Living Prophecies* (1969–70), *Living Psalms* and *Living Proverbs* (1972), fifteen minutes each, most of them on Sunday mornings at 9:15.
- **Stations after 1975?** KABI Abilene, KSKG-FM Salina and KLJC Kansas City for *Moments of Melody*. The *Emmaus Bible Hour* was on KABI and on stations in Georgia, Florida, Wisconsin, Texas, Nova Scotia and elsewhere. DZAS, DZFE-FM, the Iba station and FEBC shortwave carried the Scripture readings.

From Ken's letters of 1967–86 and newspaper clippings of 1942.

Listen: Moments to Remember

Sources

Drawn from: a 509-page scan of Ken's typed letters and papers kept with them, 1942–1987 (file "KEE Letter 52-75"): his prayer letters, his letters to Woodside Bible Chapel and other assemblies, letters to him from Filipino co-workers, the Emmaus Bible School newsletter (autumn 1963), *Know Your Missionaries* (1977), *Christian Missions in Many Lands* (1977), the *Abilene Reflector-Chronicle* and a Kansas City newspaper (1942). Karen's and Kevin's present work from Kevin (October 2026). Dad's letters were scanned about twenty years ago by Kevin and Gordon.

Companion Books

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

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

"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

Kevin's Recollections
Kevin Engle · in his own words · Stewards Foundation · In Dad's Own Words

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Every link in the series, in one place →

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BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026



Lord, Give Us This Mountain

COMPANION BOOK · HERALD OF CHRIST: THE STORY OF RUDY PONCE DE LEON

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Herald of Christ: The Story of Rudy Ponce de Leon

San Juan, Rizal · 1951–1996

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COMPANION BOOK

Herald of Christ

The Story of Rudy Ponce de Leon · San Juan, Rizal · 1951–1967

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

Rudy

Whenever Ken came home on furlough and stood up to speak in a church, there were names he always mentioned. **Reny Garantuza** was one. **Lino Aragon** was another. But the name he came back to most was **Rudy Ponce de Leon**, of San Juan, Rizal.

Rudy was one of the boys in the very first boys' club Ken started after he reached the Philippines in March 1951. That club became the **Christian Service Brigade**. Rudy grew up in it, was baptized out of it, and became the first in the Philippine Brigade to reach its highest honor, the **Herald of Christ**. In time he led the whole work, which grew to twenty-two clubs across the Philippines. He studied for several years at a seminary in New Zealand, and he has served the Lord among the assemblies in San Juan and far beyond ever since.

Rudy was born about 1939. As this is written he is still living, in his late eighties, and the stories that follow are for him as much as for anyone.

Kevin says that as far as the development of the Brigade program goes, *"Rudy was the one."* Evelyn Balanag is the heart of the Baguio story. Rudy is the heart of the Manila one.

"Is There a Cost?"

Ken reached Manila on Saturday 17 March 1951 and moved in with Cyril and Anna Brooks in San Juan. Within weeks he had children's classes going on Saturday afternoons. By July he was teaching gym to the boys at Grace Christian High School: exercises, games, and stories of Christian athletes and missionaries told between the drills.

That fall he began to talk about something more.

> Talked to Steve about Brigade. Later talked to Noel. I'm very encouraged, step by step as He leads.
>
> Ken, Sunday 30 September 1951

Among the San Juan boys who came to the new club was Rudy, a boy of about twelve. As Ken told it in the churches back home, and as Kevin remembers it, Rudy came up to the young American with one question first.

"Is there a cost to attend the boys' club?"

"There is no cost," Ken told him.

So Rudy came. He kept coming for the rest of his life.

Bright and Keen

What did the boys do? Everything. Ken led them in calisthenics and strength challenges. They memorized Scripture and worked through Bible correspondence lessons. They went swimming and played ball, and they sat around a council ring while a leader gave a short word from the Bible.

The Brigade had a motto, *Bright and Keen for Christ*, and a plain purpose, which the Philippine Brigade later printed on its brochure: *"To win and train boys for Christ."* A boy earned awards as he went, and each time he came to his leader to pass a test, there was a chance to talk. The brochure called it "man-boy contact" and said its possibilities were limitless.

Ken's 1955 diary shows the Saturdays:

> `Took Brigade swimming to Balara. 7 boys and 3 leaders. Dominy & Arturo passed swimming test.`
>
> Ken, 29 January 1955

> `Brigade tests of strength.`
>
> Ken, 5 March 1955

> `Brigade fellow passing tests for camp contest.`
>
> Ken, 9 April 1955

Not everyone was pleased. When Ken went out to Welfareville about starting a club there, he wrote that the priest *"surely opposes our coming in with a good boys' program."*

Brigade Boys

[Photo - see the full copy]

Kevin, about eleven, with Eddie Alfonso in his Brigade uniform, about 1968. Eddie's father, Eleazer "Ely" Alfonso, helped Ken when he first came to the Philippines: he showed him the ropes, taught him the customs and helped him with his Tagalog. The Brigade Ken started grew to twenty-two clubs across the Philippines under Rudy Ponce de Leon.

Kevin Engle's collection

The Faithful Three

By the start of 1955 the Brigade was still small. Some Saturdays only a handful came. Ken counted the ones who never missed.

> Brigade with faithful 3: Rudy, Reny & Doming.
>
> Ken, Saturday 8 January 1955

Rudy and Reny were in everything together. The next afternoon the San Juan Gospel Hall held its elections.

> Election in afternoon. Mr. Mercado got Chairmanship. Noel Ison Sunday School Superintendent; Rudy & Reny other SS offices.
>
> Ken, 9 January 1955

A few weeks later the young people elected Rudy again.

> Elected Rudy for Publicity and Gospel Activities Chair.
>
> Ken, 27 February 1955

On the last day of March Ken went to town and bought presents.

> Got gifts for Rudy and Lety. Went to office worked, then to Rudy's graduation with Reny. Secretary of Education Hernandez spoke.
>
> Ken, 31 March 1955

A Boy Who Showed Up

Through 1955 Rudy's name runs all through Ken's diary. He went where Ken went. In June Ken *"arranged for Luis and Rudy to go to jail service,"* to the meetings at Bilibid Prison. The next Sunday:

> At Light Bringers, Reny and Rudy gave chalk talk. Went to Bilibid. Mercado and I spoke. Brigadiers sang.
>
> Ken, 19 June 1955

The Light Bringers were the San Juan young people. A chalk talk is a gospel message drawn on a board as it is preached, and it was Rudy and Reny drawing.

He worked, too. The Bible School of the Air was flooded with enrollments that year, more than a thousand a week, and the boys came on Saturdays to help stamp and mail the lessons.

> Only Rudy to work at BSA. Rudy cut his hand. Brigade boys helped in the afternoon.
>
> Ken, 25 June 1955

Listen: Moments to Remember

Rudy Baptized

That summer the Brigade boys began to make up their own minds about following Christ. On the last Sunday of July a gospel team from Taylor University was in Manila, and Ken heard them at Grace.

> `Rudy and Doming dedicated their lives to the Lord.`
>
> Ken, Sunday 31 July 1955

The day before, Ken wrote that he *"Gave some instruction to Rudy on Baptism."* In August Rudy came to the house for the baptism class. Ken and Mary Lou were getting ready to go home on furlough, selling the car and the furniture. On the first Sunday of September, ten days before they flew:

> `Taught. Rudy baptized. Farewell for us.`
>
> Ken, Sunday 4 September 1955

The next Saturday was Ken's last Brigade meeting for a year: *"Last Brigade, farewell to boys."* On Sunday the young people said goodbye.

> `Farewell at Light Bringers Surely brought tears. Thank Him for all these young people. Sang "Blest Be The Ties".`
>
> Ken, 11 September 1955

He had come to the Philippines four and a half years before, a single man with a scooter and a mimeograph. He went home on furlough a husband and father, leaving behind a boy of about sixteen, newly baptized, who would one day lead the work.

In the Hands of the Nationals

Year after year the work grew. The boys who had passed tests began to give them. In June 1967, writing to the elders at Woodside Bible Chapel just before the family moved to Baguio, Ken could report:

> The Brigade program was almost wholly in the hands of the nationals.
>
> Ken, letter to the Woodside elders, 3 June 1967

Rudy was one of those hands. Around 1968 or 1969 he became the first in the Philippines to earn the **Herald of Christ**, the highest honor in the Christian Service Brigade. It crowns years of Bible study, Scripture memory and service, and in America it is often compared to the Eagle Scout.

The move to Baguio meant Ken saw less of Rudy, but Rudy still came up the mountain. He is in one of the photographs of the little church's earliest days at 55 Malvar, sitting by the door.



A singspiration at 55 Malvar, Baguio. Evelyn Balanag is in the center. Rudy is sitting next to the door.
Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

Listen: Mom's Piano

Led by One of the Original Members

On 31 January 1973, at John Hay in Baguio, Ken's testimony was recorded. Near the end he spoke of the boys' club he had started in 1951. By then it had grown to twenty-two clubs across the Philippines, and it was led, he said, by one of the original members.

Kevin has no doubt who that was: Rudy. Rudy was the man who managed those twenty-two clubs.

Rudy also spent several years at a seminary in New Zealand, and came home to serve the assemblies.

A Boys' Class, Turned Club

Forty years after Ken started the club, the letters were going the other way. Among Ken's papers are prayer letters from the **San Juan Gospel Chapel**, signed by Rudy I. Ponce de Leon for the elders and deacons. The boy from the 1951 club was now writing to the missionaries' supporters himself.

In December 1995 he reported a recognition service for Stimson "Tatang" Alviar, the most senior Filipino worker among the assemblies, for thirty-five years as a worker commended from San Juan, most of them in Pampanga. He reported medical missions that had treated more than seventeen thousand people since 1986, always with the medicine given free, and gospel work among families driven from their homes by lahar after the typhoons.

In June 1996 came camp news: five summer camps, four of them breaking attendance records, and a Holy Week camp with sixty assemblies represented. And there was a small thing at home. At San Juan, he wrote, the *"Sunday School boys' class (turned club)"* had been meeting for three months, and its membership had grown from five to fifteen. The boys had done so much of their Bible work and other requirements that many of them earned free passage to youth camp. It was a boys' class turned club, in San Juan, with tests to pass and a camp to win, and no cost.

He signed it *"Yours At HIS Throne."*

The Rest of Rudy's Story

A boy asked whether there was a cost. A young missionary said there wasn't. Seventy-five years later the club, the camps, the churches and the men they trained are still the answer to that question.

> The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
>
> 2 Timothy 2:2

Ken and Uncle Kevin Dyer built the Teach Others Program on that verse in 1959. Rudy is what it looks like in a life. There are more stories in Ken's diaries, where Rudy's name appears again and again, and Kevin hopes one day to gather them into a book of Rudy's own.

From Ken's diaries for 1951 and 1955, Rudy's prayer letters of 1995–96, the Philippine Brigade brochure, Ken's 1967 letter and 1973 testimony tape, and Kevin's memories (9 Oct 2026).

Sources

This book draws on Ken's diaries for 1951 and 1955, Rudy's San Juan Gospel Chapel prayer letters of December 1995 and June 1996, the Christian Service Brigade of the Philippines brochure, Ken's 1967 letter to the Woodside elders, his 1973 testimony tape, and Kevin's recollections (9 October 2026). It was first published as Part Four of Volume Two.

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Dad's own letters · 1951–1987 · his life and ministry

"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

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Friends of the work · family stories · family reference

Kevin's Recollections
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BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 13 OCTOBER 2026



Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

COMPANION BOOK · "MARY LOU, MARY LOU": THE STORY OF EVELYN AND FRED BALANAG

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

"Mary Lou, Mary Lou": The Story of Evelyn and Fred Balanag

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COMPANION BOOK

"Mary Lou, Mary Lou"

The Story of Evelyn Balanag · 1968

UPDATED 13 OCTOBER 2026

Karen and Patrick on Romblon

Evelyn

Evelyn Balanag was born in Pakistan. Her father was British, an Anglican, and her mother was Pakistani. When she was a girl, her father told his children stories from the Bible. It was a seed planted early, and it waited many years.

In Pakistan she met **Federico Balanag**, a Filipino who was there on business. They married and made their home in the Philippines, where they raised six children.

In January 1968 Mary Lou went to visit Evelyn and invited her to take a Bible correspondence course. Within days Evelyn nearly died, and in that same hour she put her trust in Jesus Christ. With her, the Baguio church began.

Evelyn and Mary Lou became close friends. Evelyn had her own way of calling for her: *"Mary Lou, Mary Lou!"* Kevin can still hear her saying it.

Evelyn went home to be with the Lord in 1985. What follows is the account Mary Lou wrote at the time, word for word, exactly as she wrote it. After it come Evelyn's pictures, from Kevin's blog about her and the family albums.

In Mary Lou's Own Words

> Evelyn Balanag - Pakistani - Deathbed Conversion and she lived to tell about it.

> On Monday, January 29, 1968, Ken and I wanted to do visitation of BSA students for a rally on the 31st when Bob Harrison would be here, also Dad and Mom Brooks. Before we went out, I went to visit Evelyn Balanag to enroll her in WBT if she wanted, also to invite her and her husband to the Wednesday evening rally. She was most eager to study the course, and said she wanted to come to the rally. She had been ill for several days as she had had a miscarriage and was still feeling rather weak.

> On Tuesday morning, the 30th, she brought me her whole course, completed and wanted to talk and ask questions. We had a good time of discussion over coffee and cookies. She wanted to enroll in the next course, Lessons for Christian Living. So she took that book home with her.
> On Wednesday, her house helper came to tell me that she would not be coming to the rally as she had just been taken to the hospital because of bleeding……..She said that Evelyn would have an operation Thursday morning.

We had the rally with good attendance, Bob Harrison sang, Dad Brooks spoke and it was a very good evening……But we were disappointed that Evelyn and her husband Fred had been unable to come. Bob Harrison prayed for her in the hospital…None of us really knew her true condition at that time.

Thursday, we found out that she had been very ill…..that she had almost died Wednesday night. I went in Thursday morning just after she had come back from surgery, and stayed a bit. She was much improved by then.

Friday, I went to the house to visit her after she had come home from the hospital. She then told me her story:

She said that she was barely conscious at the hospital because of weakness due to lack of blood. But near midnight on Wednesday, she suddenly felt worse, and called “Doctor”, then passed out. For the next two hours, doctors worked over her….oxygen, fluids, medication. They called her husband to the hospital because they said she was dying…….She came back to consciousness during these attempts to save her, and saw her husband crying at the side, and noticed a needle going in each arm with fluids…..

While she was unconscious, she said all she can remember is a vision of God Himself…sensing that she was dying, that she was floating on stars…….then when she came to consciousness, her first thought was, “Oh, God has spared me! If I had died, I would be in hell right now.”….”I want to accept Jesus this minute.” And she, by faith accepted the Lord in the split second of consciousness……All that she had studied in WBT flooded her mind, and she took that step of faith, believing in Christ as her own Saviour and was saved!
The doctor said to her, “We think you should have the priest here for last rites.” But she told him that she did not want a priest…because she was right with God, could confess to God Himself, and anyway, why should she need a priest when a priest is a sinner, too. The doctor was somewhat shocked at this statement of heresy, but sadly nodded alright.

She told me that she knows that God has saved her physically so that she could be saved spiritually, and she was so happy, and so radiant!

Her father had laid the background for this decision many years ago, when he told his children stories from the Bible. He is a British Anglican, married to a Pakistani lady.

He has read the Bible through many times, although he himself gets drunk time after time. So we do not know if he is a born-again believer. But he realized the importance of spiritual matters, and of the reading of the Holy Word…and imparted this to his children. However, she knew nothing of spiritual life through Christ when this contact was made. What she had learned had been through the correspondence course, WBT, just 48 hours previous to this physical crisis in her life.

She completed the second course, brought it to me, and asked for the third, Guide to Christian Growth. She said that she used to read paper-back books, but they made her feel dirty. She said, the reading of these courses makes her feel so clean, inside and out….She has started a Quiet Time using Daily Bread of Scripture Union Notes…….She also is interested to begin a ladies class in her living room, teaching WBT first, with me there as an advisor.

It has truly been a work of the Holy Spirit in her heart and life because I have not really done much talking with her…there wasn't time. Things happened so fast. It has been thrilling to our whole family of what can really happen when a person accepts the Lord, and the change in her own life. She has begun witnessing to all who come in contact with her.

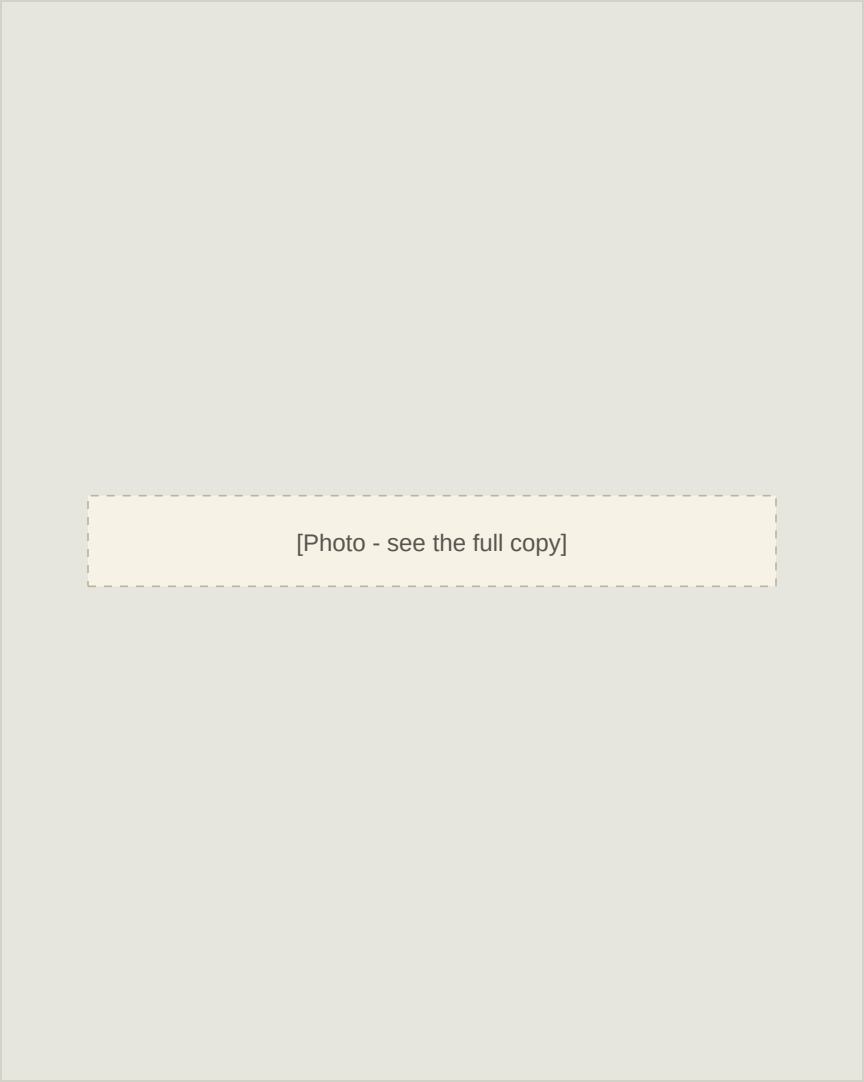
> She finished GOG in three days, then went on to SUMMARY OF THE BIBLE which she did in 4 more days. Her husband stayed up late at night to help her as it was quite difficult. They both memorized quite a bit of Scripture…..He was not saved yet, but was quite interested and sympathetic. She said that she felt so clean when she was studying these courses. On Feb 12th, she finished it, and took home WINNING SOULS THE BIBLE WAY, also she enrolled in the memory course of BIBLE MEMORY ASSOCIATION. She told me how distasteful the movies are to her now, and other amusements…that she has begun to use less cigarettes now…She used to smoke 20 in a day, but is down to 8 now. She hopes to be off them completely very soon! She had no prompting from me in all these decisions to drop things out of her life. Just the presence of the Holy Spirit has convinced her that she should not do certain things anymore. She is praying fervently that her husband will accept Christ soon so their family can be united. It is a wonderful thing that he is so sympathetic and is learning Scripture. They have pored over the Bible Atlas trying to straighten out in their minds the divisions of the land in Joshua! He is fascinated with the book. Tomorrow morning, I am going to teach her how to make bread!
>
> Mary Lou Engle, January–February 1968

Mary Lou's account ends there, in February 1968. The pictures that follow carry Evelyn's story on.

Listen: Mom's Piano

55 Malvar

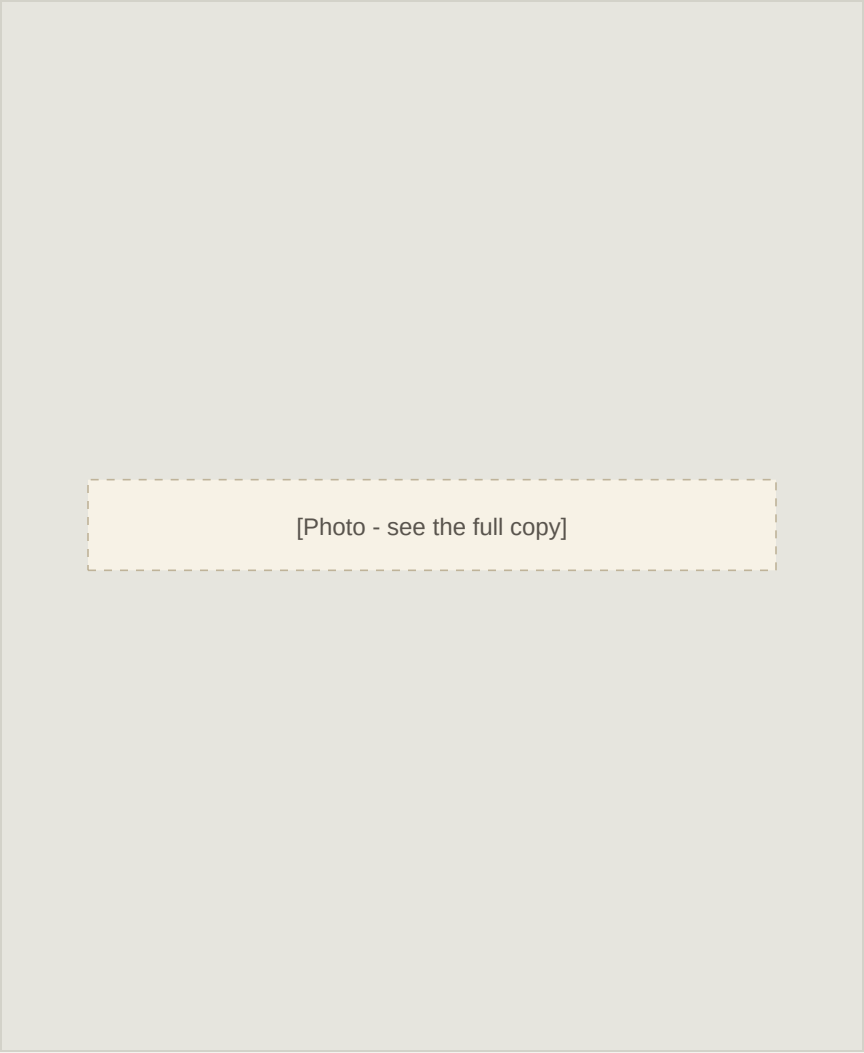
The Engles rented the house at 55 Malvar, on Aurora Hill, from 1967 to 1970. The first meetings of the little assembly were held there. It was there, too, that Evelyn came to visit Mary Lou and to pick up her Emmaus correspondence courses.



The Engle home at 55 Malvar, Aurora Hill, Baguio, 1967–1970.
Photograph by Ken Engle; Kevin's blog, 2008

The First Bible Study

One of the earliest Bible studies met at 55 Malvar in 1968. Evelyn shared a chair with Mrs. Jaleco, with Mrs. Badilla on her other side. Their husbands would soon be among the first men of the church.

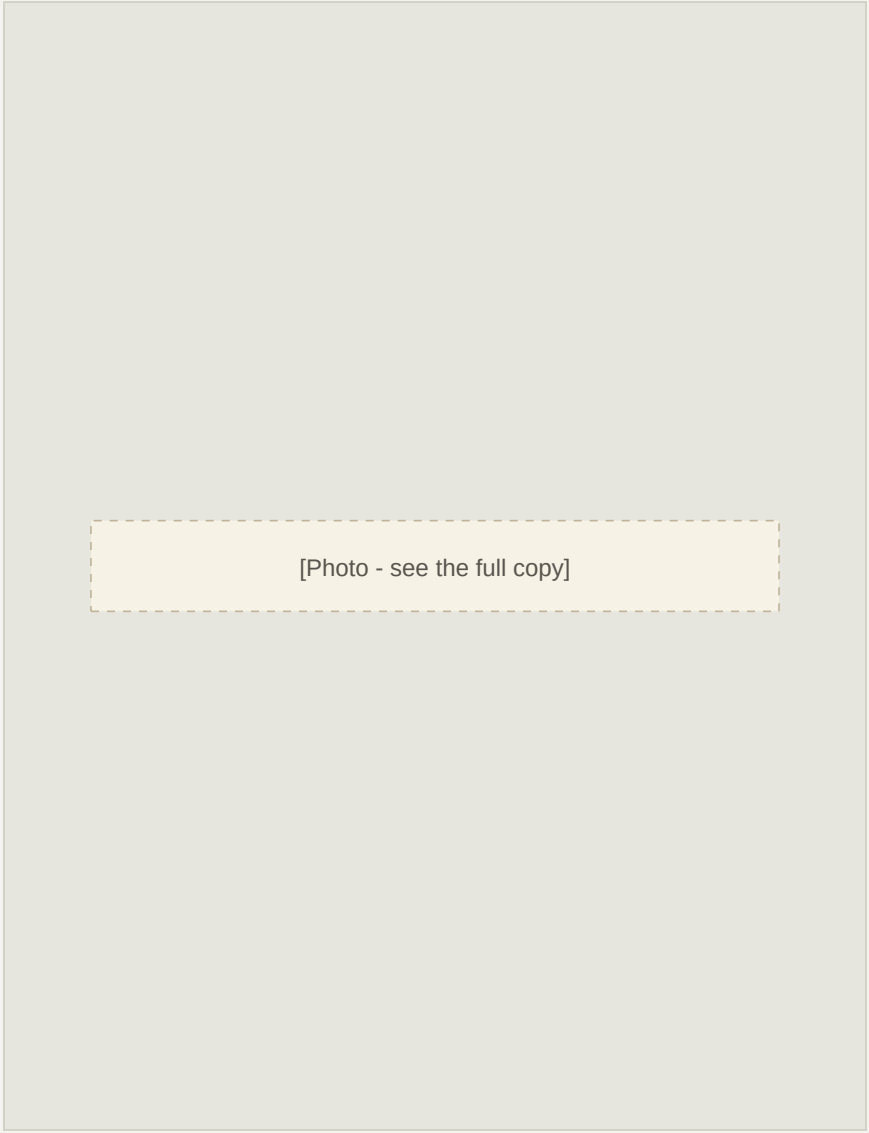


One of the earliest Bible studies, 55 Malvar, 1968. Mary Lou is standing. Evelyn, in the checkered sweater, sits in the same chair as Mrs. Jaleco, with Mrs. Badilla on her other side.

Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

Singing at Malvar

Whenever the believers met, there was one chorus they always sang: "Nothing Is Impossible."



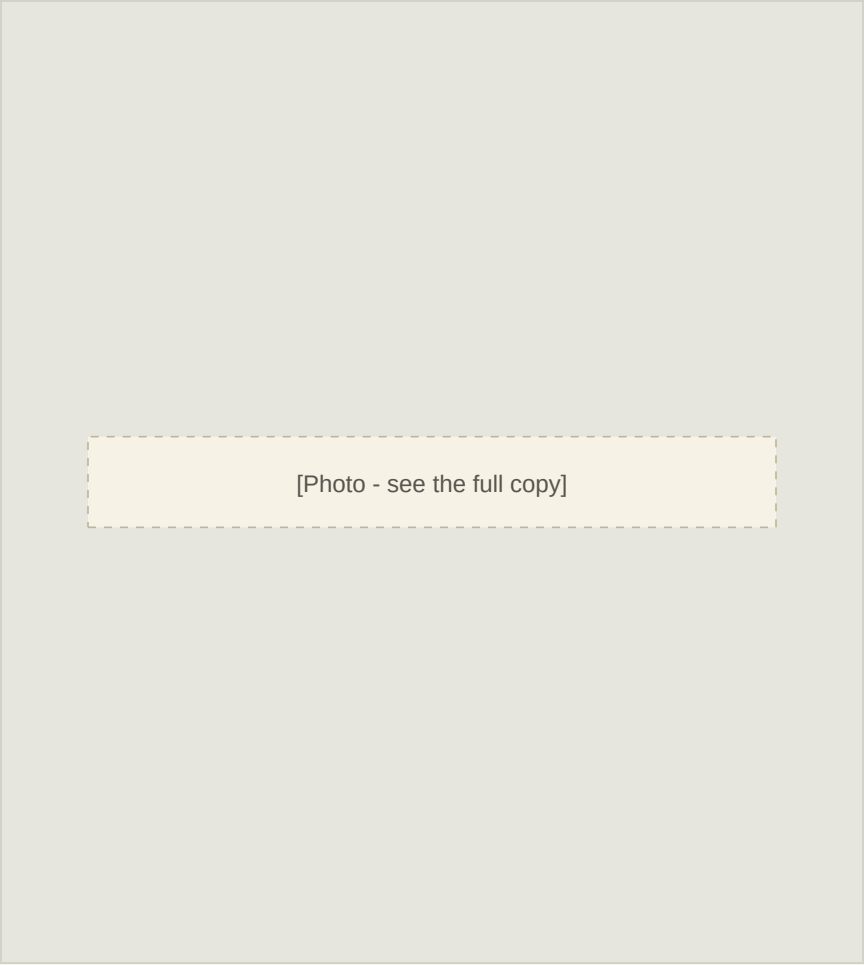
A singspiration at 55 Malvar. Evelyn is in the center. Rudy Ponce Deleon is sitting next to the door.

Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

Listen: Mom's Piano

Fred

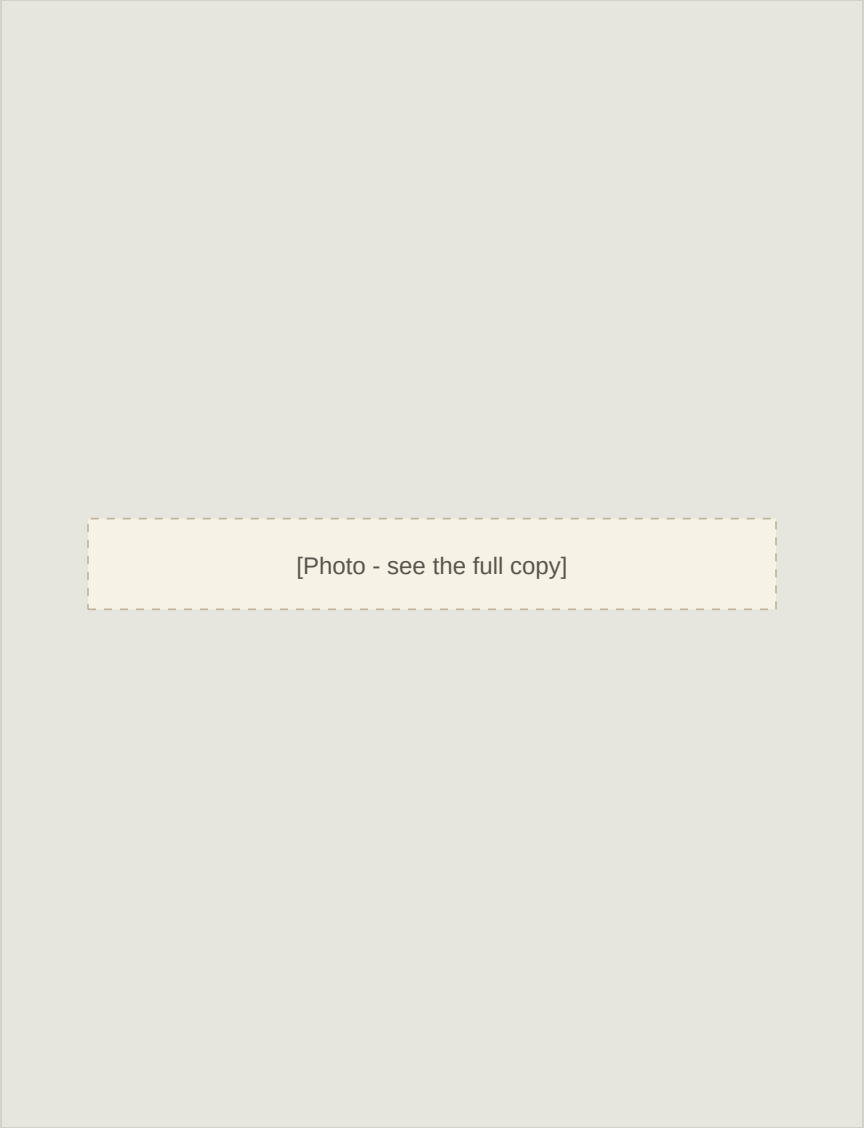
Mary Lou ended her account with Evelyn *"praying fervently that her husband will accept Christ soon."* In 1969 Fred and Evelyn were baptized together at the church's first baptism, with Sergeant Jaleco, Sergeant Badilla, and two of the Engle girls, Becky and Karen. William MacDonald (1917–2007), the Bible teacher, conducted the baptism and gave a word from the Scriptures.



The first baptism, 1969. Ken Engle with all who were baptized: Fred Balanag, Sgt. Jaleco, Sgt. Badilla, Becky Engle, Evelyn Balanag and Karen Engle.
Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

A Family

Fred and Evelyn raised six children: Polly, Dolly, Ferdie, Boy, Frankie and Molly.



Fred and Evelyn with a new baby. The album page says 1969 and names him Ferdinand; Kevin's blog wondered whether it might be Dolly, about 1963.
Photograph by Ken Engle; Engle family album

The Balanags



In their Navy Base house, about 1974. Left to right: Polly, Dolly, Fred, Ferdie, Evelyn, Boy and Frankie. Molly had not yet arrived.

Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

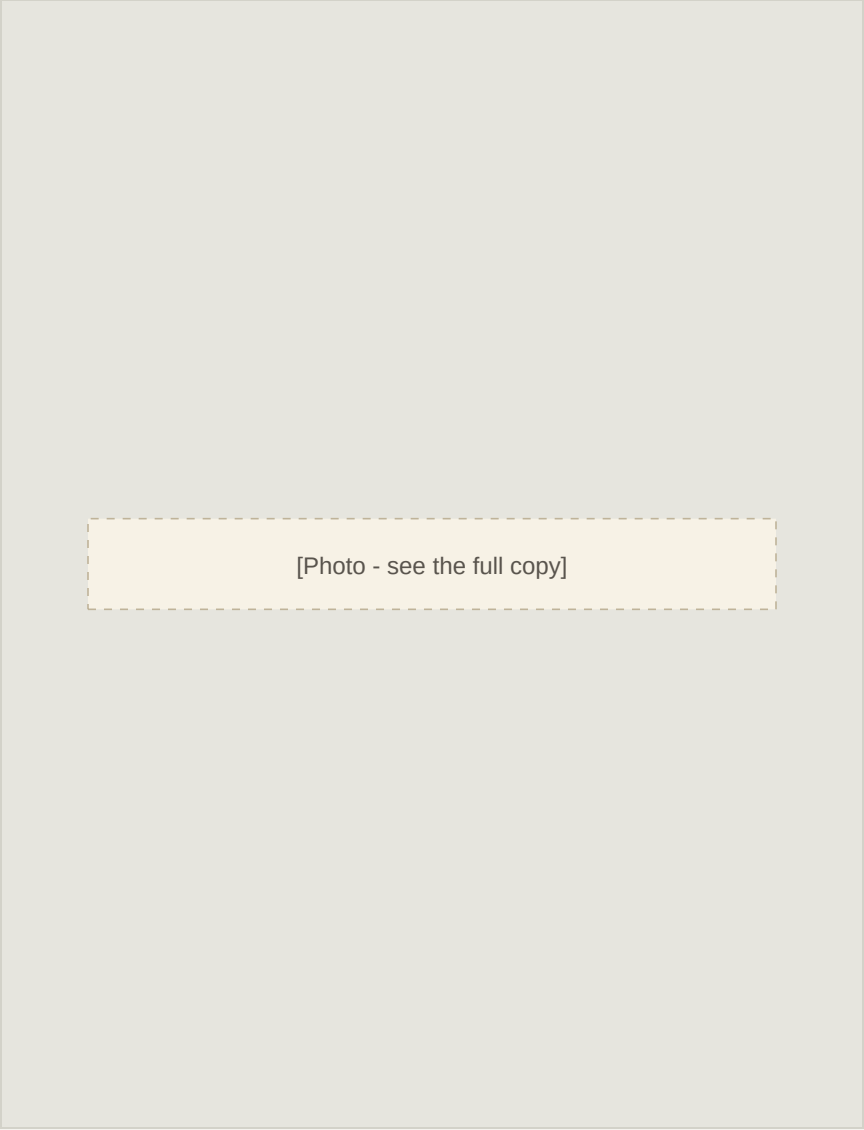


The Balanag family, about 1974.

Photograph by Ken Engle

The Godhouse

Before long the believers were meeting in the Guardhouse on Navy Base, which they affectionately called the "Godhouse."



Walking down the road away from Navy Base after a meeting in the Guardhouse, 1971. Anna "Mom" Brooks and Evelyn are in the center.

Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

The First Elders

By 1974 Fred Balanag was one of the church's first three elders, with Ruperto Jaleco and Marcos Badilla.

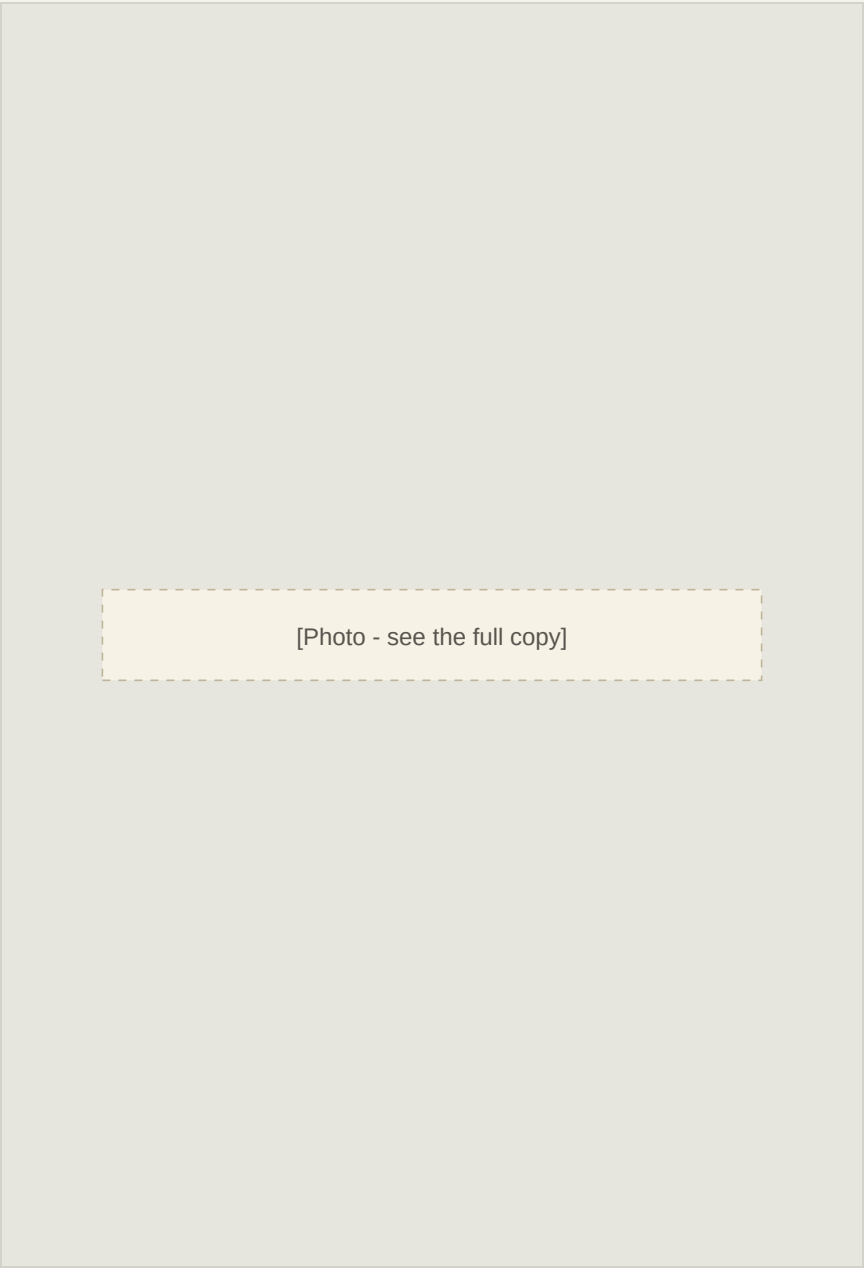


The three elders, 1974: Jaleco, Balanag and Badilla.
Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008



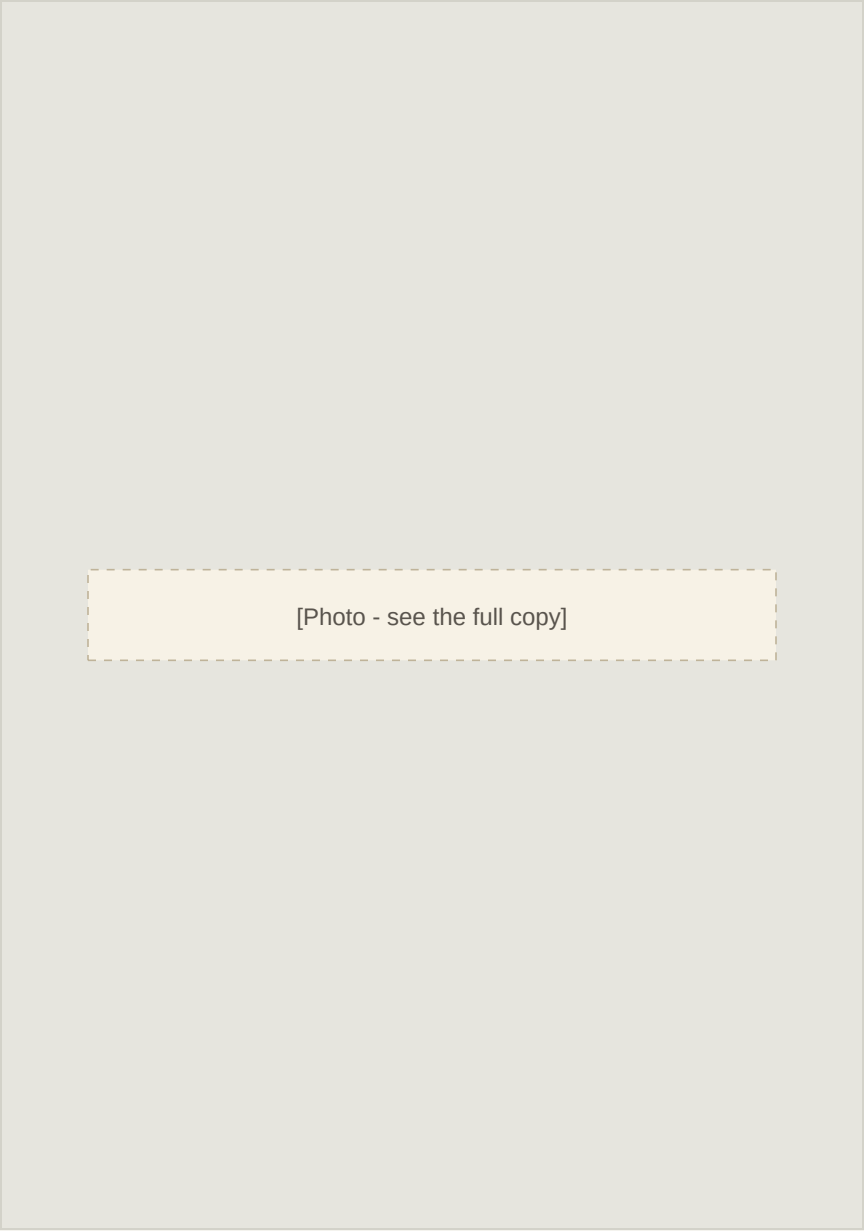
Some of the leadership of the assembly, about 1974, at the Engle home, 30 C.M. Recto, Navy Base.
Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

Old Friends



Fred and Evelyn visiting Ken and Mary Lou at the C.M. Recto house, 1975.
Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

At the Chapel



Dad Brooks standing next to Evelyn, with Fred Balanag in the brown suit and Joyce Hardisty in the foreground on the left. Probably around 1977.

Photograph by Ken Engle; caption from Kevin's blog, 2008

Just Down the Street

In *Prays for Us Daily*, Gordon left a question on the step: who was Fred Balanag, and how did he end up at the President's plane with four books in his hands?

First, a small correction. He wasn't quite the man next door. Years later Ken put it this way, in a letter home:

> When we moved to Baguio, Philippines in 1967 the first one to trust the Lord as personal Savior was a Pakistani lady. She and her husband, a professor at Baguio Tech, lived just down the street. She then asked us to pray for her husband.
>
> Ken & Mary Lou Engle, letter to friends, 22 April 1972

Just down the street. And the story of Fred Balanag doesn't start with Fred at all. It starts with his wife.

A Big Week

Her name was Evelyn. On Monday, the twenty-ninth of January, 1968, Mary Lou wrote in her little planner:

> Evelyn Balanag began to study W.B.T. Was very interested. Did 1 & 2 today
>
> Mary Lou, Monday 29 January 1968

W.B.T. was the Bible correspondence course *What the Bible Teaches*. Ken wrote that the same day was the biggest of its kind since they had come:

> Biggest day of visitation since coming to Baguio. Mrs Balinog begins WBT.
>
> Ken, week of 28 January – 3 February 1968

And the next day, Mary Lou again:

> Evelyn completed course and asked many questions about spiritual matters.
>
> Mary Lou, Tuesday 30 January 1968

The whole course. In two days.

The Rally at Brent

Wednesday night was a big night for the Engles: a rally at Brent School, with the singer Bob Harrison. But the Balanags didn't come.

> B.S.A. Rally. Bob Harrison sang at Brent. Excellent program and some response. House filled for rally. Dad Brooks spoke. Bob sang. Balanags didn't come as Evelyn got sick.
>
> Mary Lou, Wednesday 31 January 1968

Ken put down what happened at the rally:

> We learned Mrs Balanog in hospital — prayed (Evening BSA Rally) Bob prayed for Evelyn.
>
> Ken, Wednesday 31 January 1968

On Thursday Mary Lou went to the hospital. She wrote that evening:

> Went to hospital to visit Evelyn. She … was improving, but had been very ill — had almost died during the night.
>
> Mary Lou, Thursday 1 February 1968

Evelyn Saved!

On Friday, the second of February, Evelyn came home, and told Mary Lou what had happened in the night:

> Evelyn came home from hosp. She told me she had accepted the Lord during the time she was so very sick. Was really rejoicing in her new spiritual birth. Enrolled in LCL.
>
> Mary Lou, Friday 2 February 1968

Ken heard it too, and wrote it down. Someone later ran a blue highlighter over the last words:

> Got word — ML went to see Mrs B. She almost died Wed night when she knew she wasn't saved — when she came to she trusted the Lord.
>
> Ken, week of 28 January – 3 February 1968

Ken's box for that Friday:

> she had stayed up Tue night & finished WBT. Thinking much on it. Mom & Dad Brooks here in the evening — we rejoiced.
>
> Ken, Friday 2 February 1968

Asked the Lord to Save a Soul

At the back of that year's diary, on a yellow page where Ken kept the dates that mattered, he wrote it one more time, under Bob Harrison's rally, in green highlighter:

> 31 Jan 68 — Bob Harrison — 2 Feb 68 — Evelyn saved!
>
> Ken's 1968 diary, yellow end page

But here is the line that stops you. At the bottom of Mary Lou's page for that week, in the little box marked Notes, she wrote:

> At beginning of this week, we had felt it was to be a big week. Had asked the Lord to save a soul!
>
> Mary Lou, notes for the week of 29 January 1968

They asked on Monday. By Friday, the answer was home from the hospital, rejoicing. We pray small prayers most of the time. Every so often it does us good to remember that God is not embarrassed by a big one.

And Thy House

> Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
>
> Acts 16:31

And thy house. Because the very next thing Evelyn did was ask them to pray for her husband.

On Sunday evening, the eighteenth of February, Mary Lou wrote:

> Fred Balanag here to study John C̄ Ken in evening. Evelyn and I visited Brooks.
>
> Mary Lou, Sunday 18 February 1968

> Fred Balanog here for first study in John. ML took Evelyn to see C. Brooks
>
> Ken, week of 18–24 February 1968

Ken's quiet-time verse that month, written in his diary for Thursday 29 February, the week Fred and Evelyn first studied John:

> I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.
>
> Luke 10:21

The Gospel of John

The next Sunday the Balanags came again, and brought five others with them:

> 730 The Balanags plus 5 others came, Sgt Jaleco + Sgt Hipol, Sonny + his mother. We all studied the Gospel of John.
>
> Ken, Sunday 25 February 1968

Evelyn didn't slow down, either.

> Mrs. Balanag has finished 8 courses — going on to Acts.
>
> Ken, week of 18–24 February 1968

And she brought her friends. On the ninth of February she brought Pasing and Mely:

> Evelyn brought Pasing & Mely to visit. Began W.B.T. Mely's husb. close to Mormon conversion. Brooks here — met Evelyn & spoke about Pakistan.
>
> Mary Lou, Friday 9 February 1968

Sergeant Jaleco

A week or so later Ken wrote of a first sergeant at the Philippine Military Academy who was studying the course:

> Sgt Jaleco PMA — 1st Sgt studying WBT — wants it. His wife had it. He is a man almost won by Mormons.
>
> Ken, week of 18–24 February 1968

The same Sergeant Jaleco who would sit in the living room at 55 Malvar for years to come.

Then, three weeks later, Tuesday, the nineteenth of March:

> Fred came over — we reviewed verses. He says he has really trusted the Lord — is using the verses in his classes.
>
> Ken, Tuesday 19 March 1968

A professor, using John's Gospel in his own classroom. And on the last day of March, Ken added four words of his own:

> Bible Class — Jaleco + PMA man back. Feel Fred is really born again!
>
> Ken, week of 31 March 1968

At the Ramp

Now come to May. The kitchen fire was Saturday, the eleventh. Early the next morning, Sunday the twelfth, the telephone did the work:

> 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.
>
> Ken, Sunday 12 May 1968

Mary Lou called Evelyn. Fred called the President's aide. And on the airfield, with the cadets of the Military Academy giving the twenty-one-gun salute, it was Fred, a believer for about eight weeks, who stepped forward:

> went to the plane. Fred went to the Mayor. At ramp Fred presented Living Series (4 volumes) to him. Also introduced us.
>
> Ken, Sunday 12 May 1968

Four Books

[Photo - see the full copy]

At the plane: Fred Balanag and President Marcos, Baguio airport, Sunday 12 May 1968.
Kevin Engle's collection

Mary Lou wrote it in one breath:

> Another great day — Ken, Dad B. & Fred gave Volumes of Living Writings to Pres. Marcos at 7 this a.m.!
>
> Mary Lou, Sunday 12 May 1968

The John Class

A few days later Ken left on a trip. Before he went, he wrote:

> `Had prayer with Fred + turned over John lessons + Halleys to him.`
>
> Ken, week of 12–18 May 1968

The man who came for his first Bible study in February was teaching the John class in May.

So that is who Fred Balanag was. A professor just down the street. A husband his wife prayed for. A brand-new believer who walked up to a President with four books.

But something has been held back, and it is the best part.

Half a Million Pesos

Come forward eight years, to the autumn of 1976. The Engles were in Kansas by then, and Kevin was in the Navy. Kevin had been back to Baguio, and he sent his folks a cassette with news. Ken passed it on to the church at Woodside:

> It is about Mr. Balanag, one of the elders. As some of you recall he was one of the first to be saved in 1968. Besides his teaching responsibilities at the University of Baguio he is Housing Administrator for the City. Recently he was offered a bribe of half a million pesos ($75,000) if he would sign a certain paper. He refused and is is some danger. Pray for him.
>
> Ken & Mary Lou Engle, letter to Woodside Bible Chapel, 27 October 1976

> He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.
>
> Proverbs 15:27

The President Called

Half a million pesos, and he said no. Then the very next lines of the letter:

> When the Presidesnt of the Philippines was in Baguio not long ago he phoned Mr. Balanag giving him his support in this present tense situation. You may remember that some years ago Mr. Balanag gave some books of the Bible to the President.
>
> Ken & Mary Lou Engle, 27 October 1976

The President of the Philippines picked up a telephone and called the man who had once handed him four books on a windy airfield, eight years before.

And what *"Fred presented Living Series (4 volumes) to him"* would turn out to mean is… the rest of the story.

From Ken's and Mary Lou's diaries, January–May 1968, and their letters of 1972 and 1976, in Gordon's story "Just Down the Street" (The Malvar Years, 10; sent 12 Oct 2026).

Evelyn's Church

Evelyn went home to be with the Lord in 1985. The work that began with her did not stop. In December 2010 her son Ferdie filmed the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Navy Base Chapel, and Kevin posted it on the blog.

> There is nothing more Evelyn would have wanted than for the readers of this blog, and her family, to come to know and love the Savior she loved, who died and gave himself for her, and for you.
>
> Kevin, on his blog about Evelyn, 2008

From Mary Lou's own account of January–February 1968, and the photographs and captions on Kevin's blog about Evelyn (2008).



Photograph coming

More photographs from the family collection are on their way.

Sources

Mary Lou's account of Evelyn Balanag (January–February 1968), sent by Kevin on 8 October 2026, with Kevin's notes on Evelyn's family; the photographs and captions on Kevin's blog about Evelyn (balanag.blogspot.com, 2008–2013), with the original slides and album pages from the family collection. It was first published as Part Two of Volume Three. Gordon's story "Just Down the Street" (The Malvar Years, 10; sent 12 October 2026), from Ken's and Mary Lou's 1968 diaries and their letters of 22 April 1972 and 27 October 1976.



Photograph coming

More photographs from the family collection are on their way.

Companion Books

Seven 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

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

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Friends of the work · family stories · family reference

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The Table of Contents for the whole series →

Every link in the series, in one place →

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BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 11 OCTOBER 2026

[Photo - see the full copy]

Lord,

Give Us This Mountain

COMPANION BOOK · CHERYL

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Cheryl

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

Cheryl Engle 3
Cheryl's Music 4
Cheryl Lyn Engle 6
Companion Books 8

IN LOVING MEMORY

Cheryl Engle



Cheryl Lyn Ferris and Kevin Engle were married on 19 July 1986. For nearly forty years she was his wife, and all her life she sang the gospel.

On Thursday, 8 January 2026, the Lord took her home.

That date was already written into this family's story. Seventy years earlier, to the very day, on Sunday, 8 January 1956, five young missionaries gave their lives on a sandbar in the rain forest of Ecuador. One of the five was Ed McCully. In the 1940s he had invited Kevin's father, Ken Engle, to preach in Wauwatosa, and he helped support Ken on the mission field.

Seventy years to the day after Palm Beach, Cheryl followed them home.

Read their story: **Five Men on Palm Beach**, in the companion book *Family Stories and Friends* →

IN LOVING MEMORY

Cheryl's Music

[Photo - see the full copy]

Cheryl sang the gospel. With her friend Kathy Abrahamson she gave concerts in churches: Little Rock Bible Church in 1988, Park Springs Bible Church in July 2004, Wycliffe in November 2005 (where her father, John Ferris, introduced them), and others too numerous to mention. She also sang at many memorials and funerals.

At her memorial service in Kansas on 2 February 2026, the family heard two of her most requested songs. Five additional songs are included in the video of her memorial service, linked below.

♫ **Cheryl's 24/7 Radio Station · coming soon**

♫ Cheryl and Kathy in concert, 2005

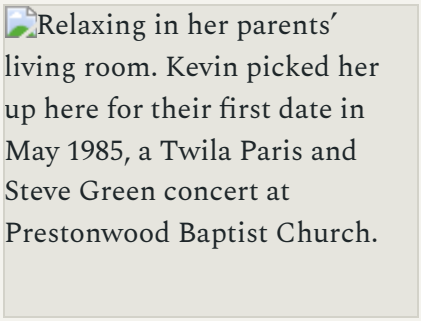
♫ Concert at Park Springs Bible Church, 2004

Memorial service and graveside, 2 Feb 2026

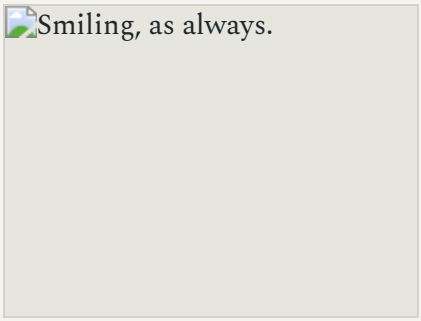
Engle Burying Ground (Find a Grave)

cherylengle.com

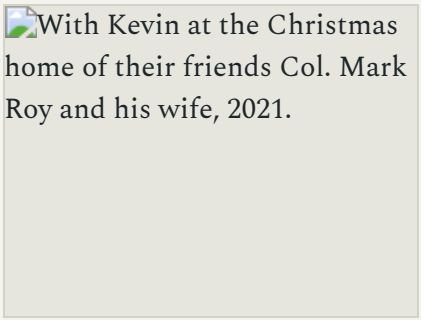
Always Smiling



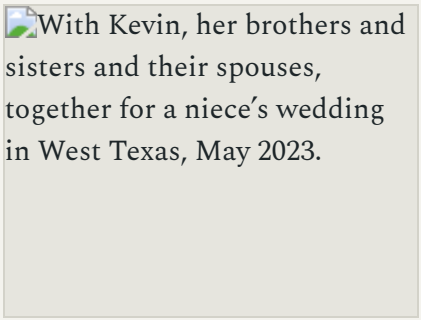
Relaxing in her parents' living room. Kevin picked her up here for their first date in May 1985, a Twila Paris and Steve Green concert at Prestonwood Baptist Church.



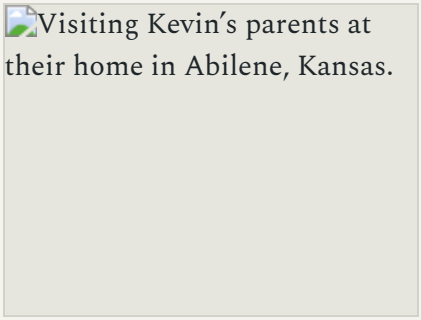
Smiling, as always.



With Kevin at the Christmas home of their friends Col. Mark Roy and his wife, 2021.



With Kevin, her brothers and sisters and their spouses, together for a niece's wedding in West Texas, May 2023.



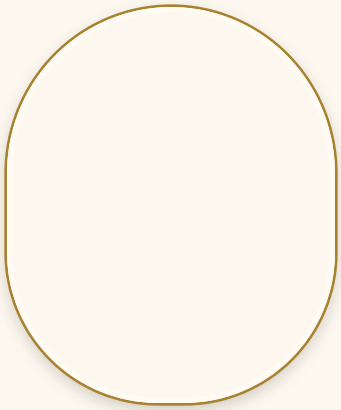
Visiting Kevin's parents at their home in Abilene, Kansas.

Kevin Engle's collection

OBITUARY

Cheryl Lyn Engle

July 1, 1952 – January 8, 2026



[Photo - see the full copy]

as.

She accepted Christ at the age of 9 and there is no uncertainty on her part that she will spend eternity in heaven with her Creator in accordance with the assurances and promises of the Word of God and the death of Christ on the cross for her sins and the complete forgiveness that brings.

Cheryl Engle

While working toward her masters in music at North Texas State University, Cheryl Engle studied voice. After leaving North Texas, and doing a couple of short opera stints, Cheryl concentrated on sacred music and, in addition to sacred concerts, has sung at church services, conferences and women's retreats.

Cheryl has always considered it a special blessing from the Lord that she has had opportunity to sing.

OBITUARY

Cheryl Lyn Engle

Cheryl and Kevin were married July 19, 1986 at the First Baptist Church in Lewisville, Texas.

She leaves her husband Kevin Engle and her siblings Rebecca Armerding, Tom Ferris and Jan Ferris to rejoice and mourn.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 2, 2026, at Mount Pleasant Church, with a private graveside service at Newbern Cemetery in Abilene. Based on weather at the time part of this may be indoors at Mount Pleasant Church.

Conducting the service will be Mark Stanger, Stan Norman and Dave Jenkinson.

If you or anyone else would like to be included in this list of invited please send Kevin a message at kengle86@gmail.com.

Cheryl's Blog

Cheryl's Vimeo music

Cheryl's SoundCloud music

Scan a code with your phone's camera, or tap it.

From Cheryl's obituary card, 2026.

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Baguio City · 1968–2010

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keepm.org · the Emmaus app · Moments to Remember · Karen and Patrick

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BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026



Lord, Give Us This Mountain

COMPANION BOOK · KAREN, PATRICK, AND ROMBLON: "CARRYING THE VISION"

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Karen, Patrick, and Romblon: “Carrying the Vision”

keepm.org · the Emmaus app · Moments to Remember · Karen and Patrick

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ANOTHER WAY TO READ THE BIBLE

The Bible on Your Phone, Free

Ken taught at Emmaus Bible School and graded its Bible correspondence courses, and in 1968 Evelyn Balanag came to Christ while studying the Emmaus courses Mary Lou gave her in Baguio. Today Emmaus Worldwide offers the whole Bible and its Bible courses in a free app, in more than 30 languages, including Tagalog.

SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA

Point your camera at the code and tap the link that appears.

Open emmaus-app.com →

Or get it from the App Store or Google Play, or use it in your browser.

100% free · Over 30 languages · Built-in Bible · Works offline · Ask questions, get answers

[Photo - see the full copy]

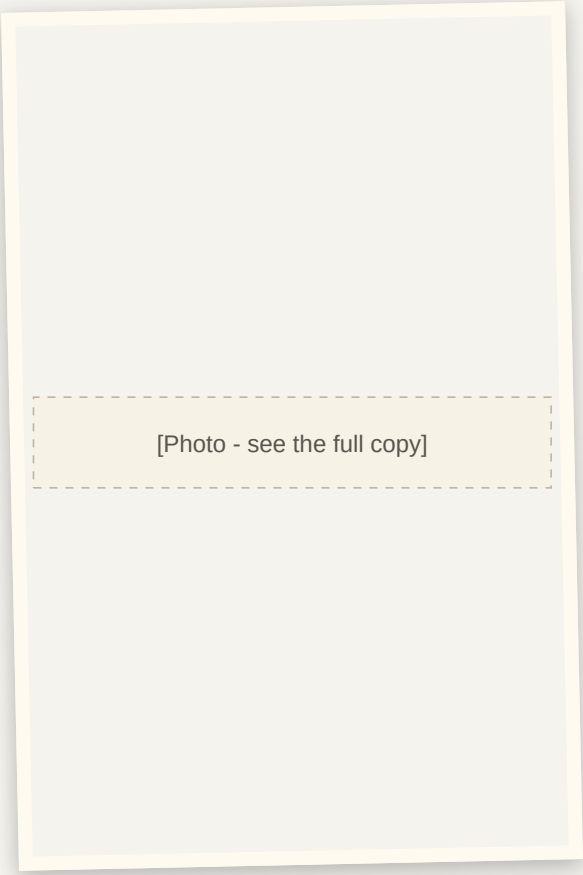
The Emmaus Bible & Courses App card, front and back.

A DEVOTIONAL FROM DAD'S RADIO MINISTRY

Moments to Remember

For years Ken recorded short radio spots called *Moments to Remember*. Each one tells a simple story, opens the Bible to one promise, and ends the same way: *"This has been a moment to remember from the Bible."* Kevin is gathering them into a little devotional, with Dad's color picture on the cover.

Listen to *Moments to Remember*



The cover of the devotional. Turn the page to read it on your phone.

READ IT ON YOUR PHONE

Scan to Read the Devotional

Point your phone's camera at the code to open *Moments to Remember*. It turns like a little book, and it is free to read and share.

SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA

Point your camera at the code and tap the link that appears.

Open Moments to Remember →

Listen to Dad's station

A short story · A promise from God's Word · A line to remember · Free to read and share

> Read the Bible not as a newspaper, but as a letter from home.
>
> F. B. Meyer, as Ken quoted him in the first Moment to Remember

GROWING AS WE GO. New moments are added as more of Dad's recordings are written out. The date on the devotional's cover shows when the latest ones were added.

Listen to Mom's Music

keepm.org

LIVE: Dad's 24/7 Station

keepm.org: Carrying the Legacy, Reaching the Islands

KEE Philippine Missions (Kenneth Ercil Engle Philippine Missions) exists to carry on the passion, the plan and the goals of Ken Engle.

In 1945 Ken flew over the Philippines as a B-24 tail gunner, praying that the Lord would let him return as a messenger and start churches there. He did. He and Mary Lou served in the islands from 1951 to 1975, and Ken preached on the radio until 2000.



What we do. keepm.org is a 24-hour gospel radio station, on the air since July 2026, playing Ken's messages around the clock. Through the **Messenger 60** program, local churches in the Philippines invite children, teenagers, students and working adults to memorize 60 Bible verses or to complete Bible correspondence courses, such as *What the Bible Teaches* from Emmaus Bible Ministries. Each one who finishes receives a solar audio Bible free, to keep for life: the whole Bible in English and Tagalog (NASB), 60 gospel messages by Pastor Charles Stanley, an AM radio and a flashlight, in a waterproof case and loud enough for a family to gather around. Filipinos at home or in the U.S. can serve as Messenger and Memorization Coordinators; write to Kevin with your testimony.

Listen Live: keepm.org Radio



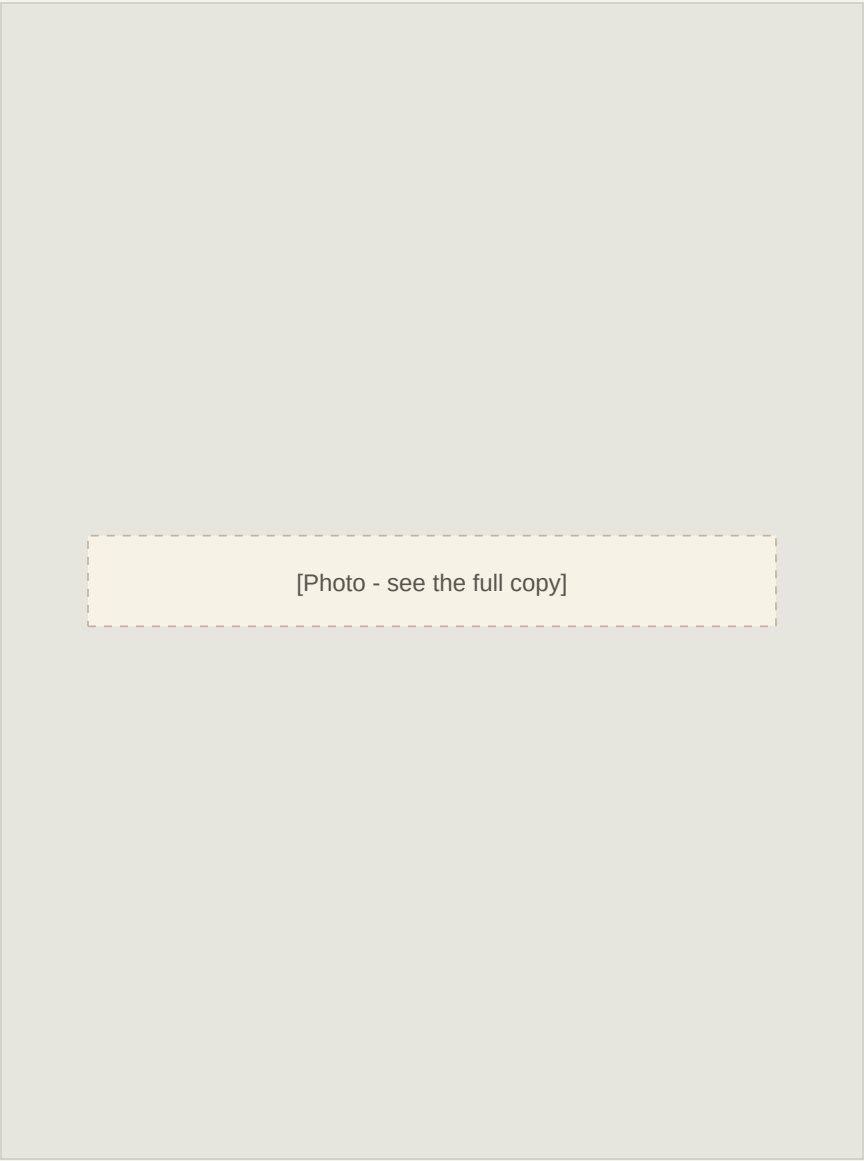
How you can help. Our long-term vision is to place one million digital Bibles in the Philippines. Our first step is to distribute one million copies of the gospel tract *This Was Your Life*. Every gift goes directly toward that literature and toward Messenger 60 audio Bibles. To give, send through PayPal to kengle86@yahoo.com. Questions: kengle86@gmail.com. Gifts are not tax-deductible at this time; we hope to offer that in the future and will let our supporters know when it does.

Keep them for Jesus for eternity.

Kevin Engle

Listen: Moments to Remember

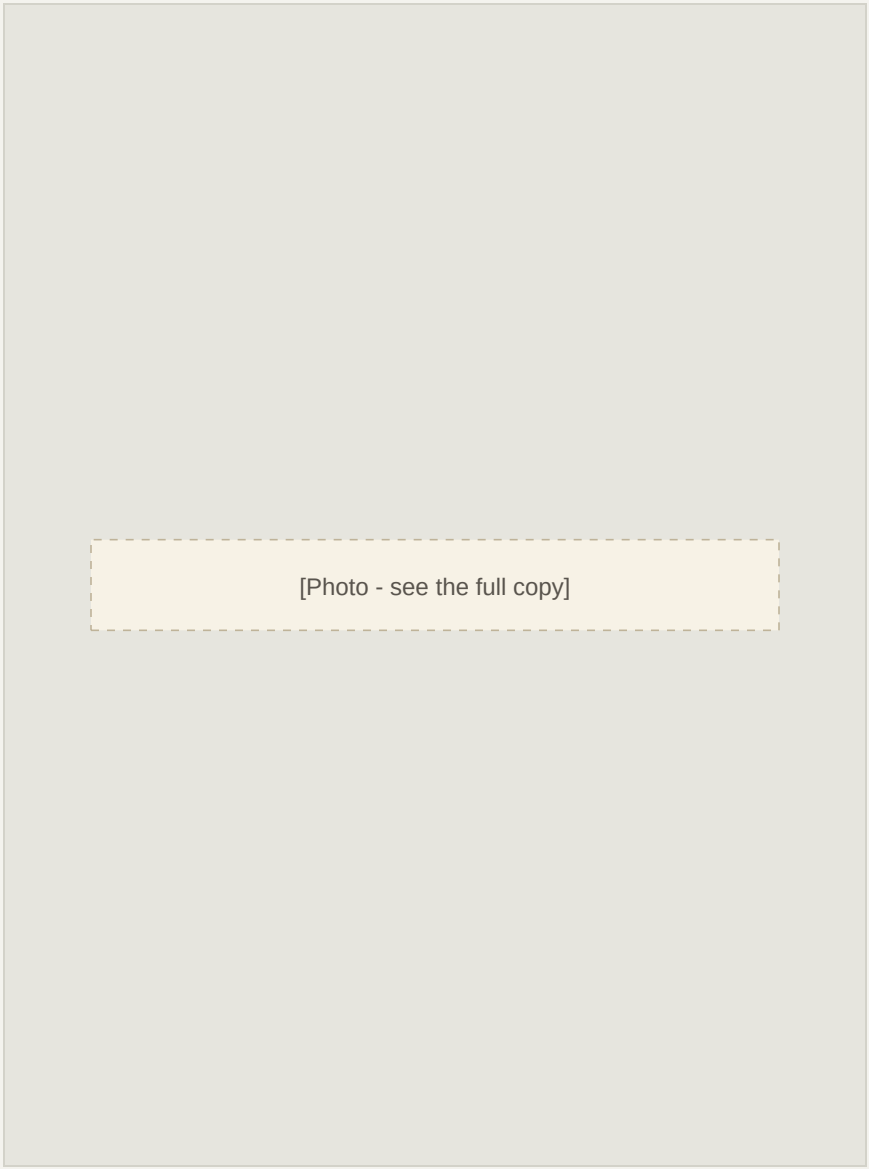
Then: A New Mission



Kevin, about eight, at the reins of a calesa in the Philippines, taken shortly after he was saved on 5 September 1965: a boy with a new mission. That mission goes on today, taking the gospel to the Philippines on digital Bibles through keepm.org, and Kevin is getting ready to go back for the first time since 1993.

Kevin Engle's collection and Kevin's memories

Now: The Plaque on Dad's Wall



The plaque Dad hung in every office he ever had, Colossians 1:28, beside his photo from the memorial service. The work goes on.

Kevin Engle's collection

OUR FAMILY'S PRAYER CARD · ABOUT 1972

Our World... the Philippines

[Photo - see the full copy]

The front of the prayer card Ken and Mary Lou sent to friends who prayed for the work. The star marks Baguio.

Engle family prayer card, about 1972

INSIDE THE PRAYER CARD

Our Burden... Our Prayer

[Photo - see the full copy]

Ken and Mary Lou Engle with Kevin, Stanley, Gordon, Karen and Becky. The card lists the work in the Philippines: boys and girls, the Christian Service Brigade, Baguio and Binangonan, and the broadcasts Moments of Melody, Moments of Meditation, the Living Book and a children's program.

Engle family prayer card, about 1972

Listen: Moments to Remember

THE BACK OF THE PRAYER CARD

Where in the World

[Photo - see the full copy]

The back of the card, with a star on the Philippines, so friends at home could see where in the world to pray.

Engle family prayer card, about 1972

KEEPM.ORG TODAY

One Million Digital Bibles

[Photo - see the full copy]

Fifty years after the prayer card, Kevin carries the work on through KEE Philippine Missions: sharing God's Word, one life at a time.



Back: the solar panel

In the box: earbuds and charging cable

Tap the device to hear Charles Stanley Radio, 24/7. Pastor Charles Stanley's messages are on the devices keepm.org will be giving away.

An In Touch Messenger audio Bible: solar-powered and loaded with Scripture. The goal of keepm.org is to put devices like this into a million Filipino hands.

The In Touch Messenger is produced by In Touch Ministries, Atlanta, Georgia.

Charles Stanley Radio | Tommy Nelson 24/7 Station

Visit keepm.org

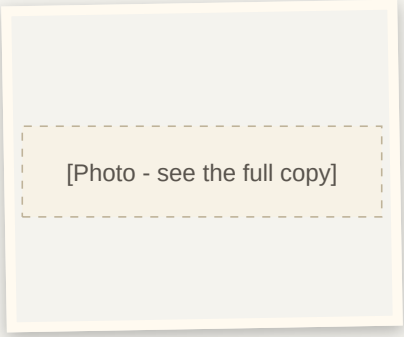
Karen & Patrick: Carrying on the Vision

1990-1995 · 2012-present · Romblon, Romblon, Visayas

Karen was born in the Philippines in 1955, Ken and Mary Lou's second daughter. As an adult she went back as a missionary herself: first from 1990 to 1995, as a single missionary in the Manila area, and then from 2012 to the present, first with her husband, Patrick Carder. Of all Ken and Mary Lou's children, she has served there the longest.

The call to Romblon came through Lani, an old friend who had helped Karen in her single years near Manila and who now lived on the island. Romblon is a small island of marble and coconut palms in the Sibuyan Sea, fourteen hours from Manila by overnight boat: thirty-three square miles, almost 38,000 people, thirty-one barangays. Fishermen go out all night with their flashlights, and along the roads people from small children to grandparents sit with hammer and chisel, breaking marble into gravel.

Patrick learned Tagalog word by word. Karen, well on her way to fluency, studied with a tutor every week. They were commended missionaries with CMML (Christian Missions in Many Lands), an organization affiliated with those sometimes known as “Plymouth Brethren.”



Karen and Patrick Carder

“Let them give glory unto the LORD, and declare his praise in the islands.”

Isaiah 42:12, the verse that closed the 2015 CMML article about them

Listen: Mom's Piano

On Romblon, Romblon, Visayas

THE CHILDREN

They got to know the children first. At their gate they set up a little feeding station, where pupils walking home from school could pick up some rice and candy, and from there they began a children's club. In August 2020 Karen wrote home that she had been "busy with kids verse club… 70 kids memorizing the book of Romans."

THE MINISTRIES

A small group met in their home every Sunday morning to remember the Lord and learn the basics of the faith. Karen taught the older women of the barangay with the Emmaus course *What the Bible Teaches*, in English and Tagalog. Patrick befriended the barangay captains, prayed with them, and planned to show the Jesus film in every one of the island's thirty-one barangays.

THE BAKE SHOP

Karen also ran a bake shop. There she trained people in baking, teaching them skills and how to earn money for their families.

THE TRANSLATION

Patrick worked with the team translating William MacDonald's *Believer's Bible Commentary* into Tagalog. "There is NONE (No, not one!) available in the Filipino language," he wrote in 2015.



Patrick and Karen

Patrick went to be with the Lord in May 2026. Karen plans to continue the work on Romblon and will be returning to the Philippines shortly.

From *Missions* (CMML), February 2015, by Kenneth and Joyce Hardisty, who visited them on Romblon; Patrick's letter of 2 September 2015; and Karen's email of 29 August 2020.

Companion Books

Seven 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

"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

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

Kevin's Recollections
Kevin Engle · in his own words · Stewards Foundation · In Dad's Own Words

> **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 seven 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

BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 12 OCTOBER 2026



Lord, Give Us This Mountain

COMPANION BOOK · FAMILY STORIES AND FRIENDS

From Lancaster County PA to Malvar Street Baguio City Philippines

Engle · Robson · Leonard · Haines

Ken and Mary Lou Engle · An Engle Family History

Family Stories and Friends

Friends of the work · family stories · family reference

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PART ONE

Friends of the Work

Ed McCully · Uncle Kevin Dyer

ECUADOR, 1956

Five Men on Palm Beach

On Sunday, 8 January 1956, five young missionaries were killed on a sandbar in the Curaray River, in the rain forest of eastern Ecuador. They had named it Palm Beach. They had gone there to make peaceful contact with the Waorani, a people outsiders called "Aucas," whom no one had ever reached with the gospel.

The five were Jim Elliot of Portland, Pete Fleming of Seattle, Ed McCully of Milwaukee, Roger Youderian of Montana, and their pilot, Nate Saint of Missionary Aviation Fellowship.

All that fall, Nate flew over Waorani homes and dropped gifts from his plane. On Friday, 6 January, a young man and two women walked out of the forest and spent several friendly hours on the beach. The missionaries called the young man "George."

On Sunday Nate radioed that he expected visitors around 2:30 and would call again at 4:35. That call never came. His wristwatch, found later, had stopped at 3:12. A search party found four of the men in the river and buried them together at Palm Beach. Ed McCully's body was carried away by the river and never recovered.

From John Bjorlie, "Five Missionary Martyrs" (Uplook, on plymouthbrethren.org), and Wikipedia.

ECUADOR, 1956

After Palm Beach

On 13 January an Air Force plane flew the widows over the grave on the beach.

Life magazine carried the story around the world. Some church leaders called the deaths a waste, but mission boards were flooded with young people offering to take the men's places. *Eternity* magazine later counted six hundred missionaries who said Palm Beach had sent them overseas.

Dayuma, a Waorani woman who had left her people and was working on their language with Nate's sister Rachel, came to faith in Christ. When she went home, she told them the missionaries had come in peace:

> Just as you killed the foreigners on the beach, Jesus was killed for you.
>
> Dayuma

In the fall of 1958, Jim's widow Elisabeth, their little daughter Valerie, and Rachel Saint went to live among the Waorani. They came to know the men who had killed their husband and brother, and some of those men came to faith in Christ. Years later the Gospel of Mark was dedicated in the Waorani language, and Kimo, one of the men from the beach, prayed at the dedication.

> He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.
>
> Jim Elliot

ECUADOR, 1956

Ed McCully

Theophilus Edward McCully Jr. was born on 1 June 1927 and grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His family belonged to a Brethren assembly in Wauwatosa, then called Good News Chapel, where his father was an elder. Ed trusted Christ at the age of seven.

At Wheaton College, where Jim Elliot was his friend, Ed was president of the senior class, and in 1949 he won the National Hearst Oratorical Contest. He went on to law school at Marquette. In September 1950, while reading the book of Nehemiah, he gave his life to missionary service and left law school.

He married Marilou Hobolth in June 1951 and took the missionary medical course in Los Angeles that he writes about in his letter. On 10 December 1952, Ed, Marilou and their baby son Steve sailed for Ecuador with Christian Missions in Many Lands, the Brethren mission Karen serves with today. After language study in Quito, they worked among the Quichua at Shandia and then at Arajuno, close to Waorani country.

When Ed died, Marilou was eight months pregnant. Their third son, Matt, was born after his father's death. Marilou later went back to Ecuador and ran a home for missionaries' children in Quito.

Ed and Ken Engle met in the 1940s at a meeting in Wauwatosa. Ed had invited Ken to preach there, and while Ken preached, Ed played his trumpet. He sent Ken fifty dollars in 1951, and the next year he wrote him the letter on the following pages.

A Letter from Ed McCully

[Photo - see the full copy]

Page one. Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, 27 August 1952.

[Photo - see the full copy]

Page two.

THE LETTER, TYPED OUT

Ed McCully
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin
Aug. 27, 1952

Dear Ken,

We seem to keep so busy that when it is possible to take time to write letters, the time is usually close to midnight. But I want to get a short note off to you at last; I've been planning to do it for a long time. We're glad to hear of your work through your letter — and we have you down on our prayer list — to remember regularly. Congratulations on your expected marriage. Trust you'll be able to use this little fellowship at this time; it's some of the Lord's money.

You may remember my wife, Ken; she graduated from Moody in December '49 — Marilou Hobolth. We were married June of '51; the Lord has blessed us with a son — Stephen Edward — who is now almost 4 mos. old. We spent the last year in Los Angeles where I took the missionary medical course at Biola. It was an intensive thing — but well worth the time. I'm glad for it and feel it will come in handy in our work. We're planning on leaving in December of this year for Ecuador, South America — to work with the Quichua Indians. We feel God is leading us there — and so we continue to trust Him from day to day as the way is opened up.

Just wanted to get this off to you with this short note. I trust God will continue to encourage you in the work — as you fellowship with Him.

Prayerfully,

Ed McCully

OUR UNCLE FROM AUSTRALIA

Uncle Husiyah

When little Kevin Engle was learning to talk, he could not quite say "Australia." It came out "Husiyah," and the uncle from Australia became **Uncle Husiyah**.

Kevin Dyer was born in Tasmania on 3 February 1936 and grew up in Australia. He came to America to study at Emmaus Bible School, and as a student he preached at the little Knox Meeting House in Knox, Indiana. It had about thirty-five people, babies included. A year later there were more than 135. At Emmaus he met Ken's sister Eloise, and they were married on 31 August 1957, the first wedding ever held in Grace and Truth Chapel. That same month in Manila, Ken and Mary Lou named their new son Kevin, after him.

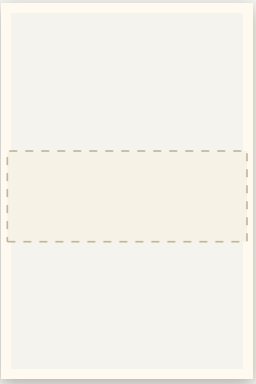
In June and July 1959 he and Aunt Eloise spent a month with the family in Manila. He spoke on DZAS radio and at FEBIAS chapel, and he and Ken wrote the Teach Others Program together.

[Photo - see the full copy]

Two Kevins. Manila, July 1959. Little Kevin, almost two, with Uncle Kevin Dyer, listening to Christian radio from DZAS, the Far East Broadcasting Company.

Literature Crusades

In 1960 Uncle Kevin founded **Literature Crusades**. Its first team of young people from the United States and Canada went to Calcutta, India, and the Dyers lived there in the early 1960s. Literature Crusades became **International Teams**, based in Prospect Heights, Illinois, and he went on to build Bright Hope as well.



Uncle Kevin Dyer, from his 2023 booklet Master, the Tempest Is Raging

"We took a team of about two hundred people to New Orleans," he remembered, "and we literally visited 75,000 homes." There were 70,000 more in Salt Lake City, congresses at Wheaton College for 1,500 young people, and supplies carried to persecuted believers behind the Iron Curtain. One man told him, "Why don't you settle down and stick with one thing? I can't keep up with you."

In his fifties and sixties he handed the work to younger leaders. In his late seventies and eighties he cared for Eloise through her Alzheimer's. At eighty-eight he was still working six hours a day and talking with at least three people every week about the Lord.

> So, eighty-eight - I'm ready - bring it on!
>
> Kevin Dyer, February 2024

The Man This Family Called

He taught young Kevin his first memory verse when he was about five: *"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus"* (Romans 8:1).

When this family buried its own, Uncle Kevin was there. He spoke at Grandma Mabel Engle's funeral in 1983 and preached at Grandpa Grant's in 1992. He prayed at Mary Lou's graveside in 2003, and he gave the graveside message for Ken in 2009.

He and Eloise had sixty-four years together before she went home to heaven in September 2021. The work went on in their children. In 1985 their son Mark and his wife Sue led International Teams in the Philippines, the same summer Karen went out as the family's "own representative."



Kevin Engle with his first cousin Mark Dyer, Uncle Kevin's son, September 2026

From Ken's 1959 diary and Gordon's "Teach Others Also" (2 Oct 2026); Kevin Dyer's letter of 6 February 2024; International Teams; and the family records.

Jesus Calms the Storm

[Photo - see the full copy]

"I was profoundly impacted by the deaths of these men and by the dedication of these women. I have never forgotten their stories, but out of enormous sadness and excruciating pain, God has triumphed."

Kevin G. Dyer, *Master, the Tempest Is Raging* (2023)

"And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm."

Mark 4:39

PART TWO

Family Stories

Heavenly Sunshine · Six Hours

Heavenly Sunshine

On 8 June 1953 Keith and Cleo Engle sat at the kitchen table in Kansas and wrote to Ken and Mary Lou in the Philippines. There was plenty to report: a new baby due any day, the hay coming down, X-rays to sit for on Monday morning. In the middle of it Cleo stopped to tell them about their little girl, Lynette, not yet three:

> She stands by the radio every Sun. and sings ‘Heavenly Sunshine’ with the Fullers, but when they are finished she still has a phrase to go! Ha!
>
> Cleo Engle to Ken and Mary Lou, 8 June 1953

Lynette had claimed the little book of daily verses for her own, too:

> Sunday Lynette had to take it to church for her Bible.
>
> the same letter

The new baby came two days later. The hay came in. The little girl grew up, married and raised a family of her own. Keith and Cleo have gone on ahead, and the old gospel hour signed off long ago. But the girl who always had one more phrase to sing is still carrying the song, and now she has her mother’s own words for how it started.

> Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
>
> Psalm 100:1–2. Ken memorized it and read it in family worship for years.

From Cleo Engle’s letter of 8 June 1953 and Gordon’s story “Heavenly Sunshine” (27 Sep 2026), written for Lynette.

Listen: Mom's Piano

Six Hours

On Saturday 5 September 2026, Mark and Sue Dyer and their son John Mark spent six hours at Gordon's kitchen table in Charlotte. There was sushi, and Tigger bit at least one of them.

Mark told a story his father, Uncle Kevin Dyer, has known all his married life. Eloise grew up in the Abilene assembly, where personal salvation was not much preached; you were simply born into it. Ken came home from Moody, where it was preached, sat his little sister down, and asked whether she had ever actually trusted Christ. She was twelve. One conversation in Kansas, about 1947, and Gordon wrote that "it is still running — through you, through Mark, through a boy born in Manila."

Ten years off the field, Ken wrote to Woodside on 11 July 1985 about Karen, who had gone out to the Philippines that summer on a team:

> We keep in touch by letter with these folks but now our own representative from the family will be there.
>
> Ken to Woodside, 11 July 1985

In the next breath he named who was running the work she had flown into: Mark and Sue. Nine months later John Mark was born in Manila. Karen is going back, forty-one years after Ken called her that. "He was right the first time," Gordon wrote.

Before they left, the Dyers prayed over the house.

From Gordon's letter "Six Hours" (5 Sep 2026) and Ken's letter to Woodside of 11 July 1985.

Two Representatives

In 1985 Ken called Karen the family's "own representative." Forty-one years later, she has company.

Kevin had been there prior to 1985. He joined the Navy in 1975 and was in the Philippines with the Navy in 1976 and 1977, and he went back again in 1993. Each time he looked up people Dad had worked with.

Karen is going back to the Philippines, and she expects to be there about half of every year, carrying on the work she and Patrick began together on Romblon.

Now, in 2026, Kevin has fully retired, and he is going back too, for the work of keepm.org: the 24-hour gospel radio station that plays Ken's messages, solar audio Bibles, and Bible courses for the islands. Kevin plans to make one or two trips a year.

So Ken and Mary Lou's family has two representatives in the Philippines now, serving in different ways: Karen for months at a time, living among the people, and Kevin coming and going. Both are working in separate spheres, with the same objectives as their parents.

Learn more, or give: keepm.org

Added by Kevin Engle, October 2026.

PART THREE

Family Reference

Kin and connections · the six · timeline · where we were when

Kin and Connections

Is anyone famous in the family? Here is what the records support.

Family

- **Jacob "Yokeli" Engel**, a founding leader of the River Brethren (the Brethren in Christ), of our Lancaster County Engel family. Kevin counts eight generations from him.
- **Col. Paul E. Leonard**, our uncle. He studied under F. F. Bruce, served on the NIV translation committee, and trained counselors for Billy Graham.
- **Carl Armerding**, our uncle by marriage. He taught at Regent College and was a translator of Judges for the New Living Translation.
- **Alvin Koons**, Ken's first cousin, a Navy chaplain. His and Bobbie's papers, including a book on the Swatow Chinese language, are at the American Baptist Historical Society.
- **Virginia Leonard Moldenhauer**, our aunt, a missionary nurse in the Belgian Congo.
- **Kevin and Eloise Dyer**, with Bright Hope, and three generations of Dyers in missions, including **Mark and Sue Dyer**, who led International Teams in the Philippines.

Crossed paths

- **H. A. Ironside** preached at Grace and Truth Chapel. Great-grandfather Robson was likely saved under him.
- **Ed McCully**, later martyred in Ecuador, sent Ken an early gift in 1951.
- **Dwight D. Eisenhower**'s family came to Abilene in the same River Brethren migration. There is no known kinship.
- **Carlos P. Romulo** spoke at Brent's 1975 graduation. **President Marcos** received Scriptures from Ken in 1968.
- And, as Ken liked to say, no relation to Marx and Engels.

The Six

Becky. Violinist. She married Dave Jenkinson.

Karen. Flutist. She was the family's "own representative" on a Philippines team in 1985, and married Patrick in a garden in 1999. She served as a missionary in the Philippines from 1990 to 1995, and on Romblon from 2012 to the present, with Patrick until his death in 2026.



Kevin. Jud Fry and Navy man, and a psychology graduate on Armed Forces Day. He married Cheryl in 1986; Cheryl went home to the Lord in January 2026. Kevin built PlymouthBrethren.org in 2004 and now leads **KEE Philippine Missions**, carrying Dad's work forward with audio Bibles for the Philippines. Kevin served as Executive Director of Stewards Foundation for 16 years.

Stan. Ten pounds at birth. Builder of model dams and a musician. He married Fiona Harvey in England in 1987.

Gordon. Born on furlough. He played King Cole in his third-grade play and built a telegraph at ten. Today he is the family archivist and storyteller. He loves to play the piano and guitar and to watch and listen to Alistair Begg.

Doug. He knew his verses from A to Q and was baptized in Ontario in 1987. A graduate of Emmaus, he preaches, transcribes the old diaries, and writes Brethren history.

Timeline

1743	Ulrich Engel born, Switzerland
1789	Engle Grove deed, Donegal Township
1879–80	Engles move to Dickinson County, Kansas
1922	Grant Engle marries Mabel Robson
1924	Ken born, near Abilene
1930	Mary Lou born, Canonsburg
1943–45	Ken in the Army Air Forces; B-24 tail gunner
1951	Ken to the Philippines; proposal by letter
1953	Wedding in Manila, 26 April
1954–59	Becky, Karen, Kevin, Stan born
1959	Dyers visit; Teach Others Program
1964	Gordon born; John Leonard dies
1966	Binangonan baptisms; Karen's flute
1967	Move to 55 Malvar, Baguio
1970–73	Abilene
1975	*Oklahoma!*; Kevin to the Navy; leaving the field
1976	Doug born
1987	Doug baptized; Stan marries Fiona
1988	Kevin graduates, UT Dallas
1990–95	Karen, missionary in the Manila area
2000	Doug graduates, Emmaus
2003	Mary Lou goes home
2009	Ken goes home
2012–	Karen and Patrick on Romblon

Listen: Mom's Piano

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Seven 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

"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

Kevin's Recollections
Kevin Engle · in his own words · Stewards Foundation · In Dad's Own Words

> **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 seven 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

BASAHIN SA TAGALOG →

UPDATED 11 OCTOBER 2026

83 PAGES

[Photo - see the full copy]

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

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ENTRY ONE

Stewards Foundation

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

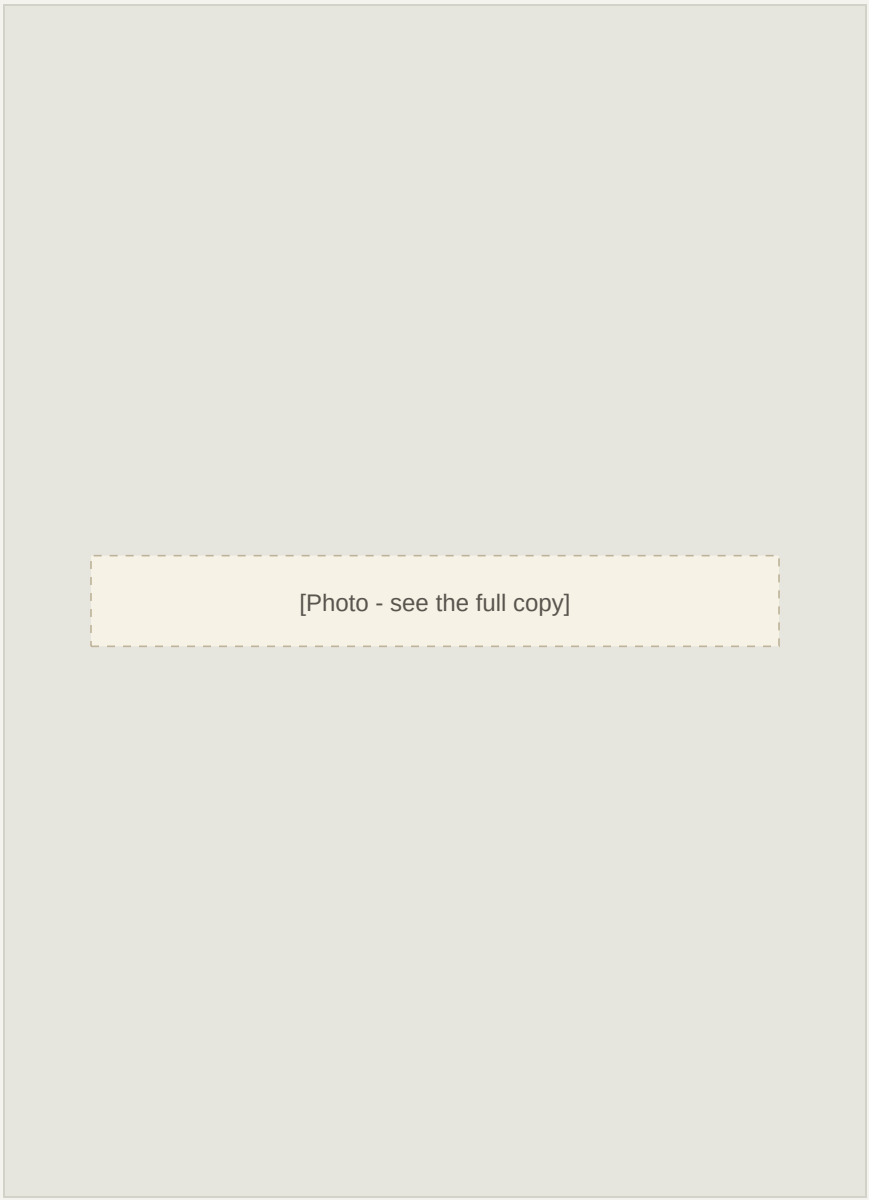
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How It Began

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



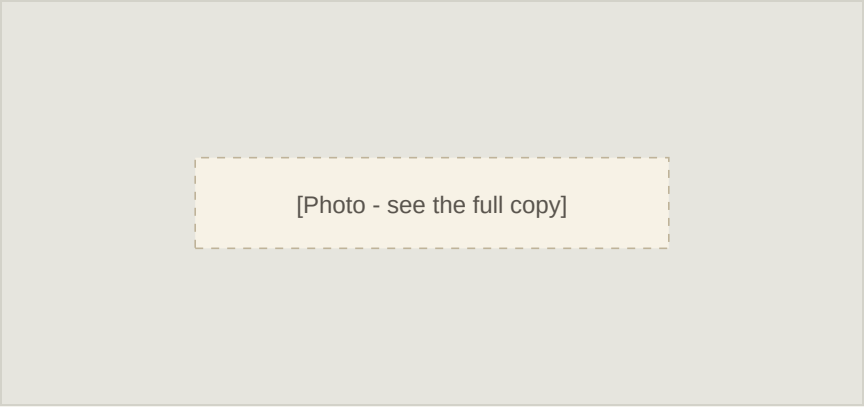
The front door of the Stewards Foundation office at 218 West Willow in Wheaton, Illinois. The signs beside the door name Stewards Foundation, Sender Foundation and Workers Together.

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.



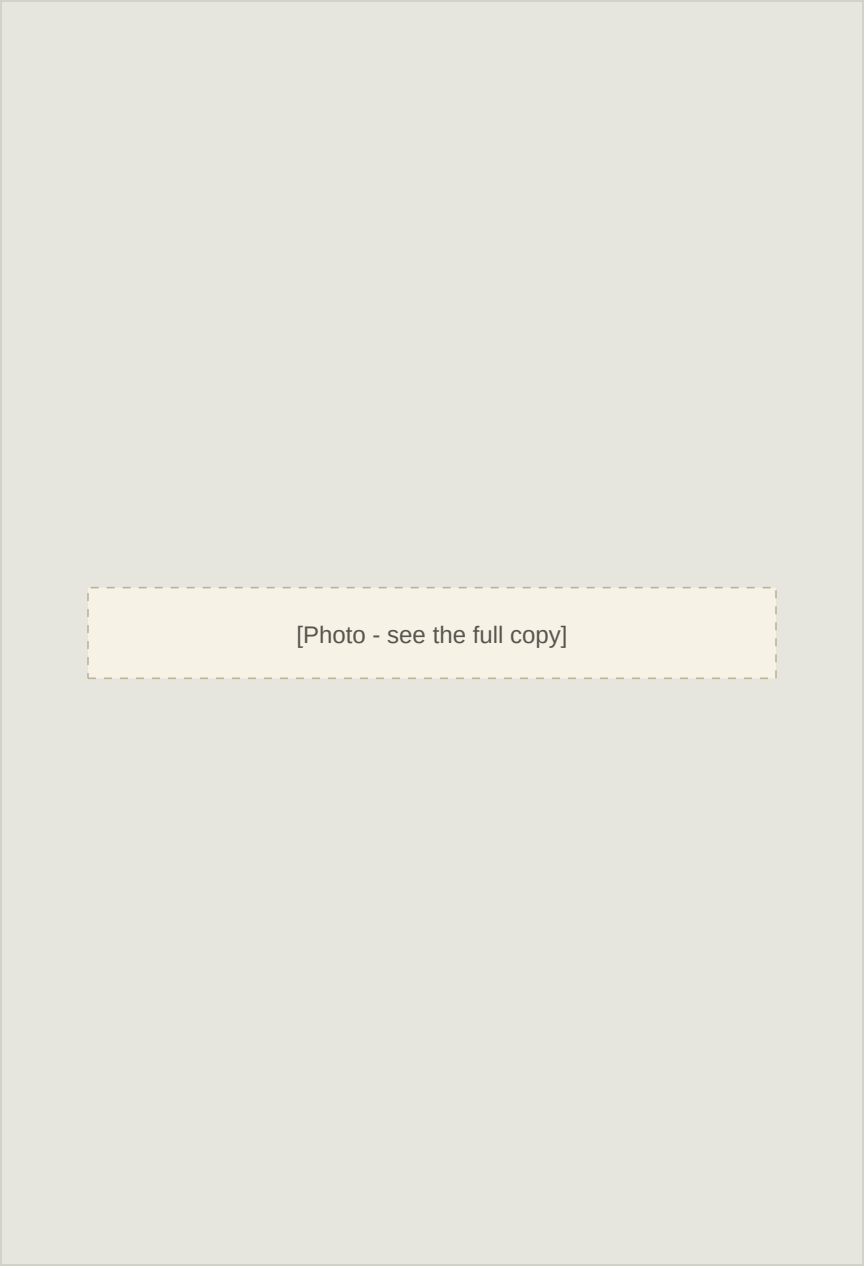
A Midway Airlines Fokker 100, like the plane Kevin flew from Dallas to Chicago Midway every Monday morning and home again every Friday.
Photo: Wikimedia Commons

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.

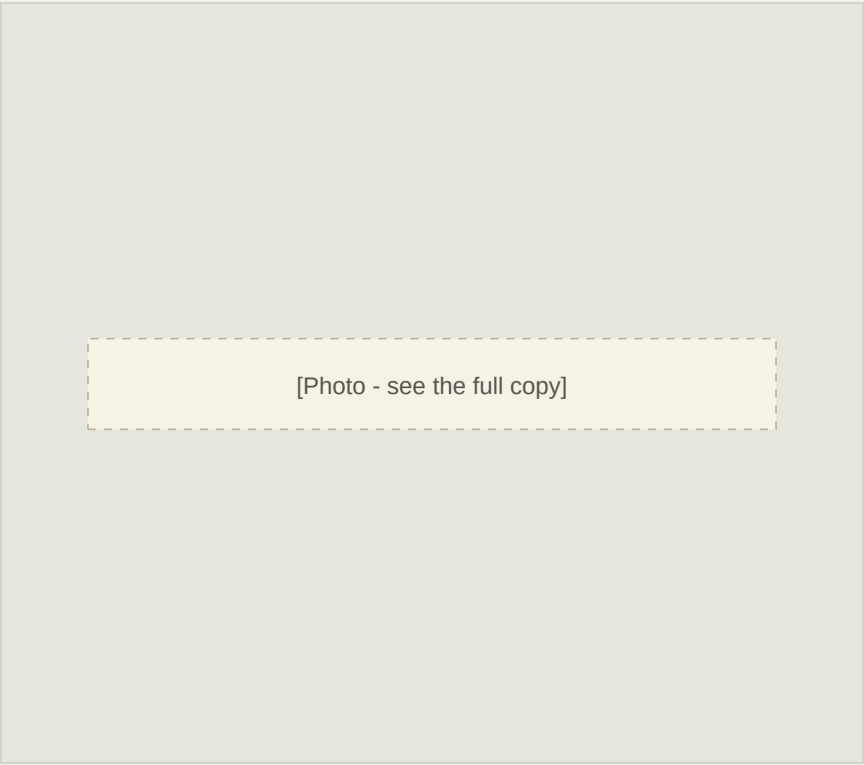
Executive Director



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

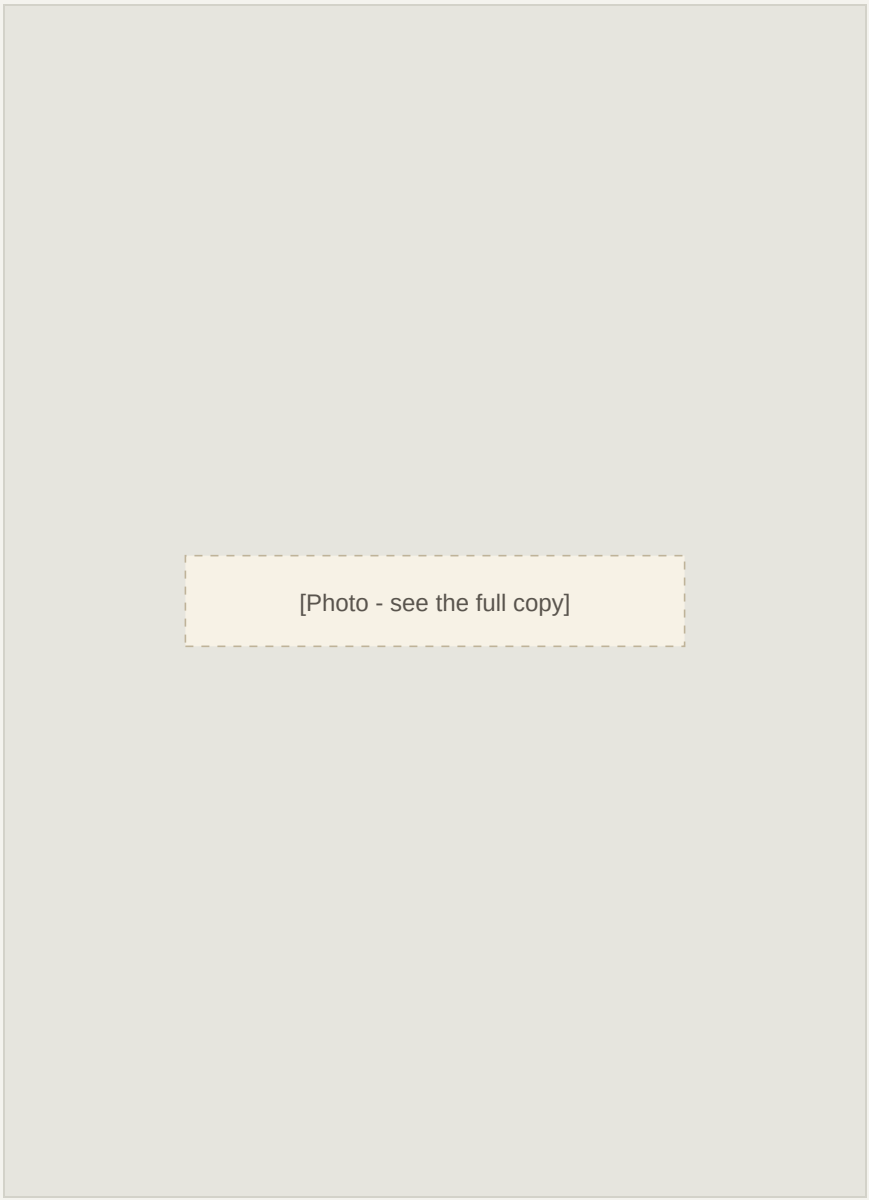
The Foundation's other great purpose was helping assemblies build and improve their meeting places through church loans. Kevin oversaw that loan program throughout his tenure, from the first approvals at his very first board meeting to the busy years near the end. Loans went to assemblies large and small, 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.

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

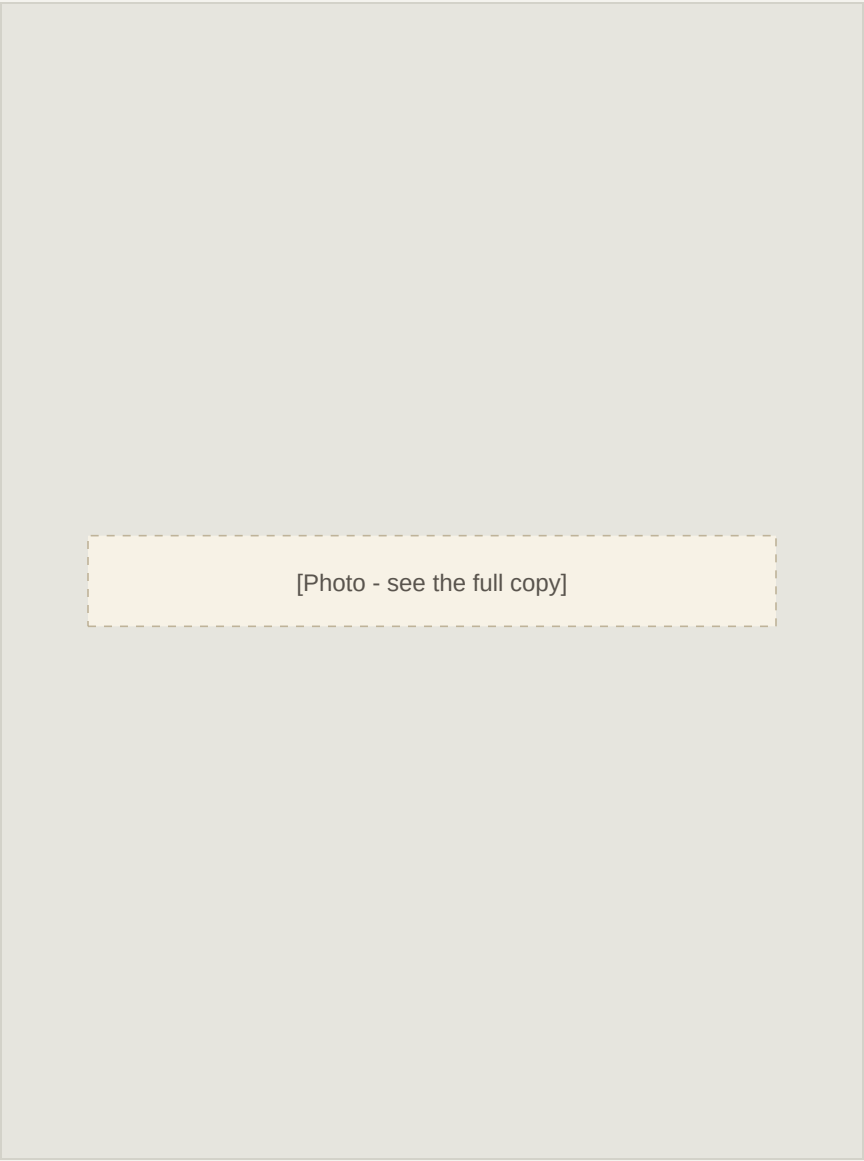
No account of Kevin's years at Stewards Foundation is complete without Cheryl. She was not a footnote to the work; she was at the center of it. Board members and friends often told the Engles some version of the same thing: "Oh, I could never work with my spouse." Kevin and Cheryl did, together day and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



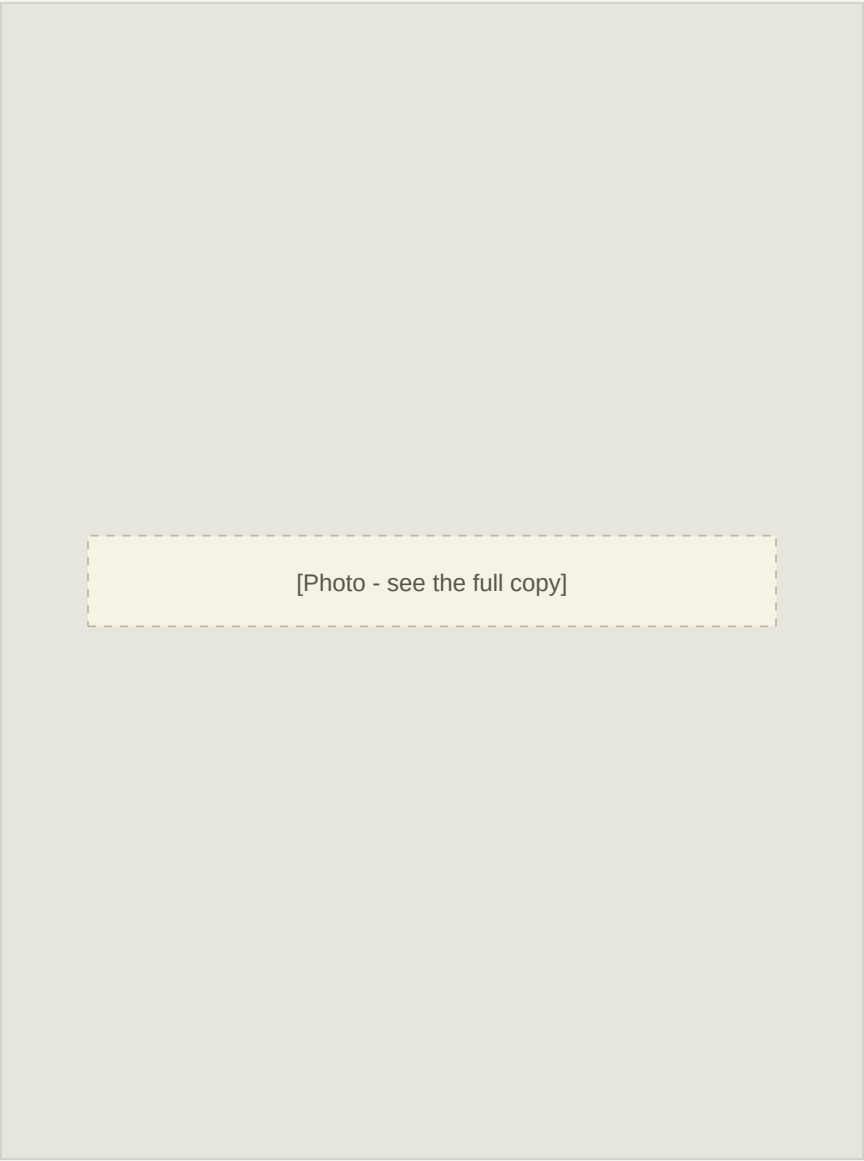
Kevin and Cheryl in the Stewards Foundation office. The Stewards Ministries sign behind them came from Wheaton, Illinois, where Stewards Foundation and Stewards Ministries once shared the office at 218 West Willow. When the Foundation moved to Texas, the sign came with it as a keepsake of those years.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

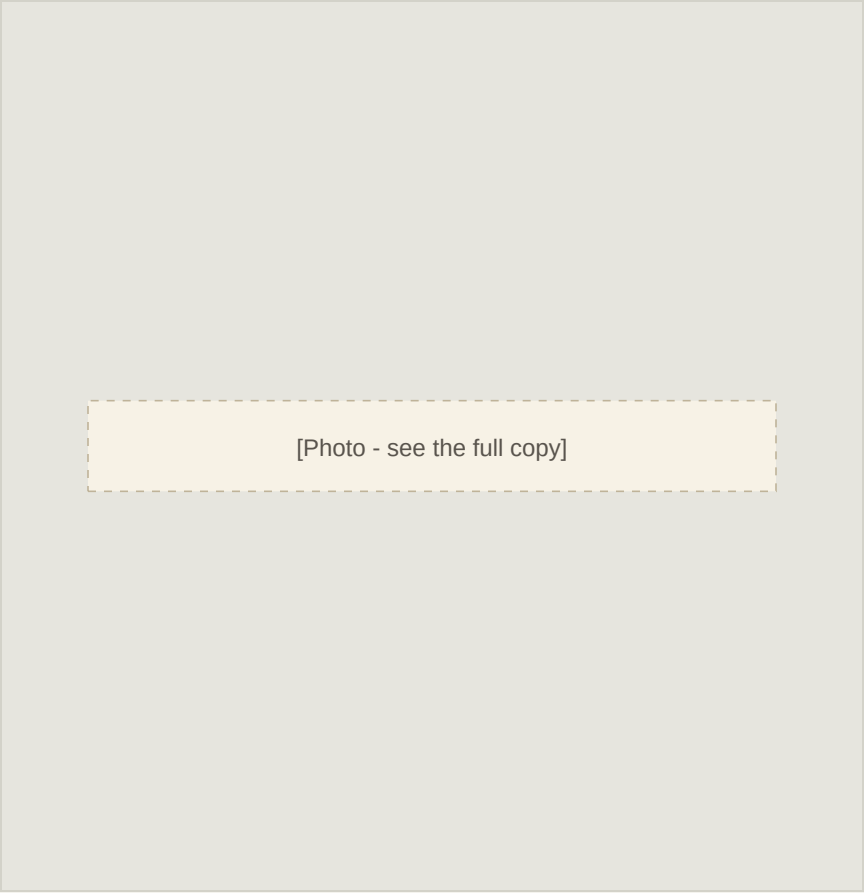
Guests from Singapore



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.

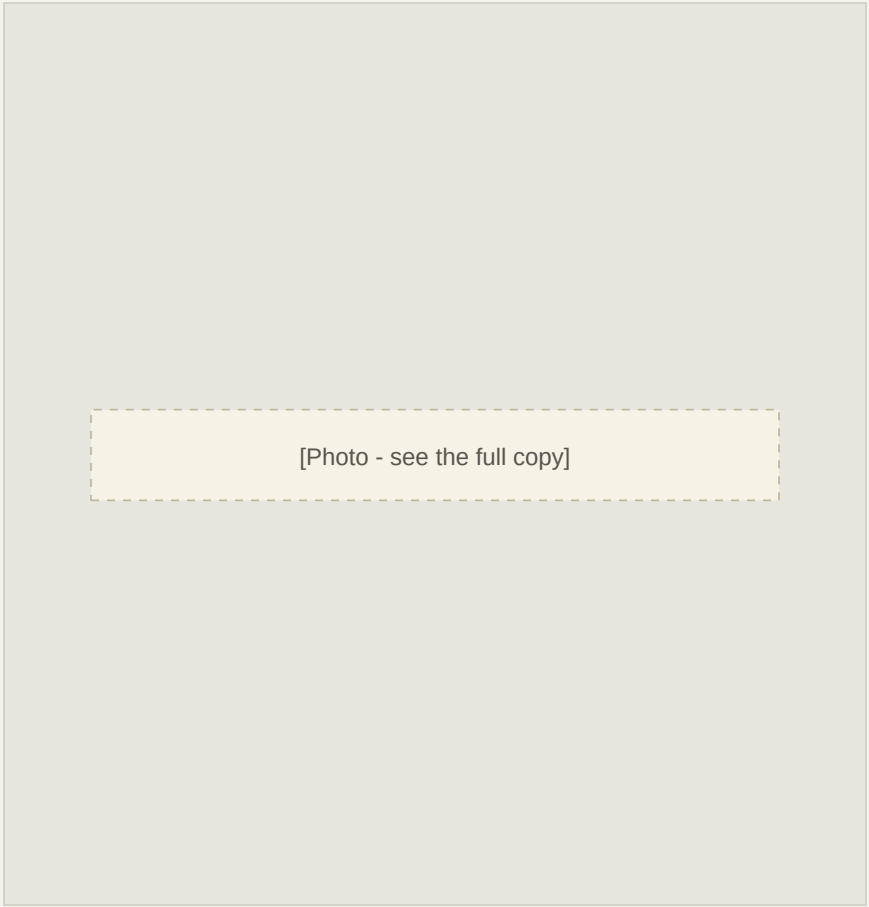


The gold Executive Director baton that trustee Jerry Keller presented to Kevin when he went off the board in 2006, in grateful thanks for Kevin's years of work with Stewards Foundation. The plate reads: Run Well, Heb. 12:1 · Finish the Course, II Tim. 4:7 · I Will Be With You, Matt. 28:20.

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.

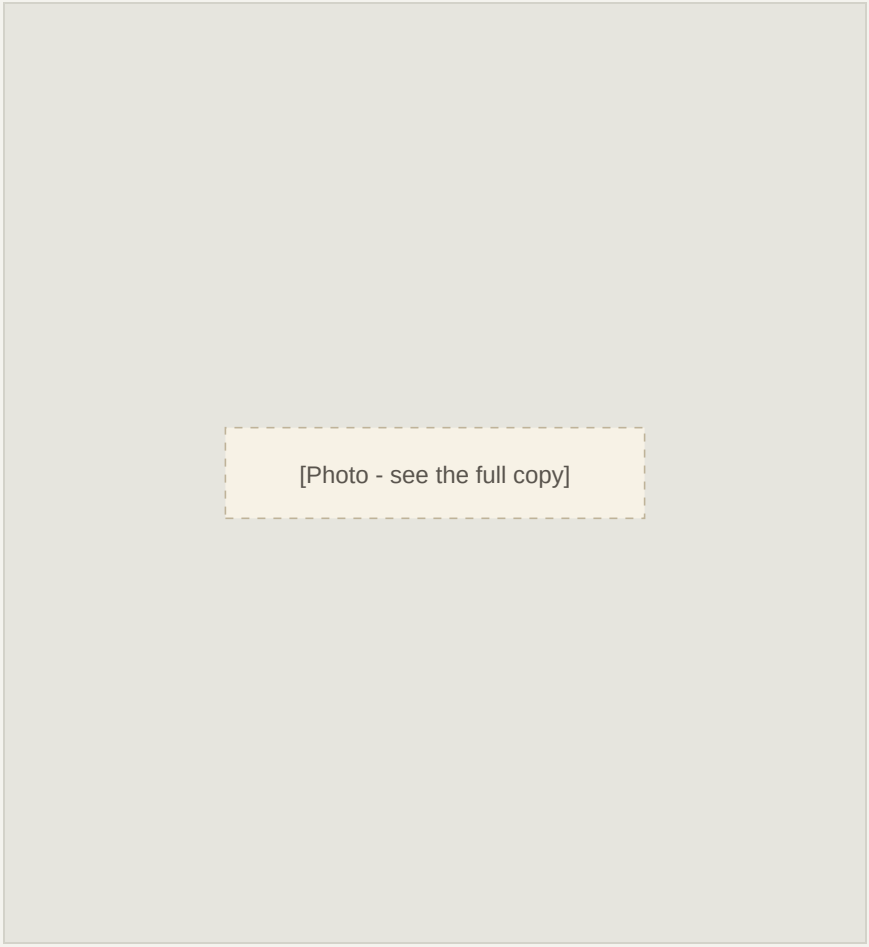


A second honor for the same anniversary: a Texas flag flown at the Capitol in Austin in honor of Kevin's tenth anniversary with Stewards Foundation, presented by Representative Bryan Hughes, April 25, 2004.

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.

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. 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

When I Asked Cheryl to Marry Me

Coming soon

ADDED 12 OCTOBER 2026

Companion Books

Seven 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

"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 seven 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