

**The Dedication of the Trinity Episcopal Fire Circle
to the Memory of
2nd Lieutenant Joe Ebert Allen
Sunday May 26th 11 am**



A light in the distance calls to us,
“Come here - to this place! There is safety here!”
“Come here! We welcome you!”
“Come and sit with us in faith and friendship!”
“Come here and know the light that will brighten your life!”
Let that light in to the depth of your soul and let it warm your body.
God is the light!

In 1969, friends of Lt. Joe Ebert Allen, USMC celebrated his life and sacrifice by dedicating a tiered fountain in his memory. The fountain structure was destroyed in 2005 during Hurricane Katrina. Trinity Episcopal Church is joyful to remember Lieutenant Allen in the same place, with this light in the darkness.

Joe Ebert Allen was an exceptional point of light for all his life. Allen spent most of his young life in Pass Christian attending local private and public schools where he excelled in sports and academics. He successfully attained the rank of Eagle Scout - an honor achieved by only 4% of the Boy Scouts of America.

At Trinity, Allen served as acolyte and crucifer before entering Tulane on a naval officer training scholarship. While studying for his double major in English and Latin American studies, Allen received training in the Vietnamese language. An Honor graduate of the US Marine Officer training school in Quantico, VA, Joe took part in the defense of Saigon during the Vietnam War. He volunteered to be transferred to the battle zone.

On the day of his death, Lieutenant Allen and his platoon established a night ambush on a suspected enemy infiltration route, and after observing a large North Vietnamese Army force moving near his position in the perimeter zone near Quang Tre, he ordered his men to adjust mortar fire towards the enemy and reposition to a more advantageous position. Allen received several critical wounds but encouraged his men to move forward, shouting encouragement, and directing fire.

Following his burial in Long Beach, Mississippi, Joe Ebert Allen was awarded the Silver Star for "his bold leadership and resolute determination." He was praised for his "unwavering devotion to duty and upholding the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life in the service of his country."

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."
- John 15:13

Join us Sunday, May 26 at 11am, following the 10am service, in the celebration of the life of Joe Ebert Allen and all of those who served in wartime and peacetime on behalf of the United States of America. We thank them for their dedication and sacrifice.



To the deceased, may God rest their souls!
To the living, our gratitude and respect!

Photos:

- a. Walking on Water Youth Group
- b. 2nd Lieutenant Joe Ebert Allen