

Daring Rescue Attempt

Trying to retrieve a canteen, Keen, the 11-year-old son of famed neurologist Dr. Walter Freeman, slipped into the swollen Merced River a short distance above Vernal Falls in Yosemite Park.

Bystanders, horrified at the sight and knowing what could happen, began screaming. But only one had the quick-thinking courage to try to save the boy.

Orville Loos, 21 years old, just out of the Navy and still in uniform, leaped over the guard rail and swam to the struggling boy. He reached him when he was only about 15 feet from the brink of the waterfall.

Catching hold of the boy's shirt, Loos tried valiantly to drag him to safety. The force of the current, however, was too much, and both of them were swept over the roaring falls to their death on the rocks 325 feet below.

Loos was determined to save the boy, tried his best, and gave up his life in the attempt. Later, Loos was presented posthumously the Carnegie Hero Award for his efforts.

Loos had sacrificed his life for another.

Every day, associates in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home give of themselves – their professional talents, their time, their energy – sacrificially for others. In effect, they, too, are committing their lives for the benefit of those they serve.

They are our everyday heroes. And they are laying up treasures in heaven.

– Beecher Hunter

