The sinking of the USS Juneau

This is the location where the USS Juneau, on which Waterloo’s Five Sullivan Brothers served, was struck by a Japanese torpedo and sunk on Nov. 13, 1942, as the Juneau and other battle-damaged American ships were returning from the naval Battle of Guadalcanal. The Juneau, already damaged in the overnight battle, took a torpedo from the Japanese submarine I-26 intended for the USS San Francisco. The torpedo struck a main magazine and the Juneau exploded amidships and sunk in seconds.

The naval Battle of Guadalcanal was a fierce, nighttime ship-to-ship battle in which the outgunned American ships surprised and turned back a “Tokyo Express” Japanese invasion task force headed for the island of Guadalcanal to attack embattled U.S. troops there.