

SPRING 2018

COURAGE ★ LOYALTY ★ HONOR



THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA & MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER



A PROGRAM OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND
FOUNDERS OF THE WALL

OMA ALUMNI, RSU TO HOST **THE WALL
THAT HEALS**, JUNE 7-10, 2018

OMA ALUMNI REUNION JUNE 8-9, 2018 | PAGE 6

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Mr. Phil Goldfarb

Do You Remember OMA With:

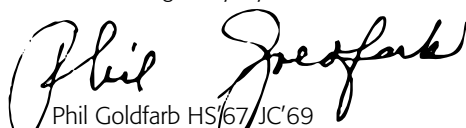
Your first day on the Hill? Your first squad leader? Getting your rabbit haircut? Meeting your first roommate? Your First Sergeant yelling "Get out of Bed"? Sitting and bracing at chow? Your first demerit? Saturday inspection? Running around the lake? Getting your mail at the Guard House? Making your first phone call home? Marching to the band? Marching into a football game? Marching downtown Claremore in the Will Rogers parade? Being recognized as a rabbit? Your first night off of The Hill? Your first War Board? Your first Bivouac? Your first Lazy day? Attending your first Lyceum? Attending your first dance? Having your first underage beer? Smoking your first cigarette (probably at OMA)? Induction into the O club? Induction into the Chevron Society? Induction into the Saber Society? Graduation?

The answer to all these questions (and more!) is: *"How Could I Forget?"*

Then "how can you forget" to fill out your registration form and join us at the June Reunion? Don't wait...do it now or call the alumni office! You won't regret attending this year!

We will be one of the first to have the updated version of THE WALL THAT HEALS where visitors can do name rubbings on the memorial.

With Courage, Loyalty and Honor,

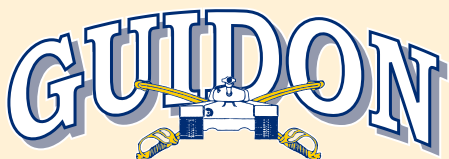

Phil Goldfarb HS/67 JC'69
OMA Alumni Association President

DID YOU SERVE IN THE VIETNAM WAR?

We need a photo of you in uniform for the 2018 OMA Alumni Reunion

Please mail to:

Danette Boyle | OMA Alumni | 1701 W. Will Rogers Blvd. | Claremore, Oklahoma 74017



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Executive Director:
Dr. Danette Boyle,
dboyle@rsu.edu,
918-343-6888
918-381-8764

Administrative Assistant:
Tammy Ryan
tryan@rsu.edu
918-343-6889

Editor: Dr. Danette Boyle
Assistant Editor: Tammy Ryan
Designer: Kate Northcutt

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dr. Danette Boyle

It is truly “beyond describing” how I feel today about our next OMA Alumni Reunion, June 8 and 9, 2018. The Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association and Rogers State University are bringing THE WALL THAT HEALS to “College Hill.”

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have this traveling exhibit in conjunction with our 2018 OMA Alumni Reunion. “College Hill” will be among the first to host the new, larger three-quarter scale WALL replica that is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. You can read all the information and details about THE WALL THAT HEALS on page 6-8 of this *Guidon*.

It is truly amazing that OMA Alumni, family, friends and visitors will be able to do name rubbings of individual service member’s names on THE WALL THAT HEALS coming to the campus. This will be the first time THE WALL THAT HEALS exhibit will have this feature, similar to the experience for visitors to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C.

At this reunion, we will remember and honor the 21 OMA Cadets who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War. It is so important that you plan now to attend the OMA Alumni Reunion June 8 and 9.

To register for the reunion, please contact me. I am always so happy to pick up the phone and hear the voice of an OMA Alumnus.

With All Good Thoughts,

Danette Boyle
Executive Director, OMA Alumni Association
dboyle@rsu.edu
918-343-6888-office
918-381-8764-cell

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21 FOREVER, OUR FALLEN BROTHERS

LETTER FROM THE 2018 ADJUTANT



Mr. David Raper

Fellow Cadets and Families,

It is indeed an honor to serve as your Adjutant for the 2018 OMA Alumni Reunion on two fronts. First, it gives me an opportunity to serve the men of OMA and also to honor the institution that so much impacted my life. This year, our focus is on the Vietnam conflict.

The 2018 Reunion will feature the special attraction of THE WALL THAT HEALS, a replica of the Vietnam Wall that travels around the country and is a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall located in Washington, D.C.

How can a wall heal? Many Veterans and families present themselves at the Wall and finally are able to lay down the burdens they have been carrying for many years. We come to a point of acceptance that our fathers, sons, brothers, wives, friends and husbands are at rest with their brothers in arms and our maker.

We, the Corps of Cadets, will discover that as of Memorial Day 2017, there were 58,318 names on The Wall. OMA is represented by 21 of the finest men who marched on the grounds of OMA. These men continue the OMA legacy of Courage, Loyalty and Honor.

A special ceremony at THE WALL THAT HEALS has been scheduled for 9:15 a.m. on the Saturday morning of the reunion weekend. You might have noticed that Dr. Boyle made mention of our need for volunteers while The Wall is in our possession. In memory of our fallen, we may be asked to stand guard at The Wall.

THE WALL THAT HEALS and its accompanying Mobile Education Center travel around the United States to bring The Wall to those who have not been able to travel to Washington. The cost associated with that travel is borne by the requesting group. The funds that we, as association members, donate this year will defray the cost with remaining monies left over providing scholarships for the RSU GOLD Program military students. Dr. Boyle gave us some suggestions, so let's jump in, cover the costs of The Wall and have some scholarship money for the young men and women who have taken our place on the line.

By now you have received your OMA Alumni Reunion 2018 registration form along with the schedule of events. If you are a "first timer," Welcome Back! If there is anything the alumni staff or I can do to make your return to "The Hill" more successful, please do not hesitate to call us.

Even if you do not play golf, please make sure you are at the "Golf Lunch." The reunion is an opportunity for you to renew, re-establish, and refresh the memories of your time on "The Hill." Once again, First Lady Peggy Rice will host a Ladies Luncheon at the President's residence. This is always a big event for our ladies.

In closing, thank you again for this opportunity to be the 2018 Reunion Adjutant. As a special request, as you look at the names of your classmates on The Wall, remembering the ones you knew and honoring the ones you didn't, please pay special respect to their sacrifice to Courage, Loyalty and Honor.

Yours in service,

David Raper
Vietnam 1968
Honorable Member Corps of Cadets OMA '65

REGISTER NOW AND BE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER A DRAWING FOR \$1,000!

OMA Alumni who register and attend the Saturday Alumni Luncheon at the reunion will be eligible to enter a drawing for \$1,000.

You must be present to win.

(OMA Alumni Board of Directors are not eligible for drawing.)

HELP BRING THE WALL THAT HEALS TO "COLLEGE HILL"



Mr. Randy Vierling

Dear Fellow Alumni,

It is my distinct honor to share with you the news that THE WALL THAT HEALS will be on display during our 2018 OMA Alumni Association reunion to be held June 8 and 9 on the Rogers State University campus. The Wall is a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., that includes the 58,318 names of those who gave their lives during the war.

Bringing THE WALL THAT HEALS to "College Hill" will serve as a testimony to the sacrifices of our 21 OMA brothers who died during the war, while also providing a public service for countless area veterans and their families as they remember the souls enshrined on the Memorial.

THE WALL THAT HEALS will be open around the clock from Thursday, June 7, through Sunday afternoon, June 10, with special ceremonies scheduled throughout its time in Claremore. The traveling exhibit also includes a mobile Education Center to provide context to the war's history and the Memorial itself.

Bringing THE WALL THAT HEALS to Claremore is not without expense, and we are reaching out to our fellow alumni to support this important initiative that will benefit our OMA family and area veterans.

The OMA Alumni Association board is challenging our fellow alumni to raise money to defray the costs of bringing THE WALL THAT HEALS to the RSU campus, along with its associated operating expenses. Additional funds above and beyond that amount will provide scholarships for the deserving students in the Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) program at RSU. It's been a pleasure to watch these young men and women develop into citizen-soldiers who are carrying on the OMA legacy of "Boots Back on the Hill."

Please be part of this once in a lifetime opportunity to again honor the memory of our fellow cadets who gave it all and to attend one of the most important reunions in the history of our association.

Respectfully,



Randy Vierling '63

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

FUNDRAISING GOALS

You can be an important part of bringing THE WALL THAT HEALS to Claremore. We need your help with the fees and related expenses for THE WALL THAT HEALS and with "Boots Back on the Hill" by supporting scholarships and activities for the RSU students in the Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) Program.

Make a gift for THE WALL THAT HEALS/GOLD Program Fundraising Scholarship Fund. Gifts made be made in honor or in memory of anyone who served or was killed in Vietnam.

ALL NAMES OF DONORS FOR GIFTS RECEIVED BY MAY 5, 2018 WILL BE LISTED IN THE OMA ALUMNI PROGRAM

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are many volunteer opportunities available for both individuals and groups during the memorial's time in Oklahoma.

To make a pledge or learn more about volunteering opportunities, please contact Danette Boyle at 918-343-6888 or email dboyle@rsu.edu.



OMA ALUMNI, RSU TO HOST THE WALL THAT HEALS, JUNE 7-10, 2018 | OMA ALUMNI REUNION JUNE 8-9

The Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association and Rogers State University will be bringing THE WALL THAT HEALS, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial along with its accompanying mobile Education Center, to RSU's Claremore campus in June to honor those who served during the Vietnam War.

THE WALL THAT HEALS honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed forces during the Vietnam War and bears the names of the more than 58,000 men and women, including about 1,000 Oklahomans and 21 OMA cadets, who made the ultimate sacrifice during the war. THE WALL THAT HEALS will arrive in Claremore on June 6. Following its installation that day, the exhibition will be open around the clock until noon on Sunday, June 10.

OMA alumni and RSU are bringing the traveling exhibit to Claremore in conjunction with the association's annual reunion on June 8-9. The Claremore stop

will be among the first to host the new, larger THE WALL THAT HEALS exhibit, which includes a three-quarter scale Wall replica that is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. With the new replica at this size, visitors will be able to experience THE WALL rising above them as they walk towards the apex, a key feature of the design of THE WALL in D.C. For the first time in the history of THE WALL THAT HEALS, visitors also will be able to do name rubbings of individual service member's names on THE WALL.

"Bringing THE WALL THAT HEALS to Claremore allows us to honor our OMA Alumni who served during the war, while also providing the opportunity for area veterans and family members to experience the full power of THE WALL THAT HEALS," said Phil Goldfarb, President of the OMA Alumni Association.





For the first time in the history of THE WALL THAT HEALS, visitors will be able to do name rubbings of individual service member's names on THE WALL.

The exhibit includes THE WALL replica and a mobile Education Center comprised of: digital photo displays of "Hometown Heroes" – service members whose names are on THE WALL that list their home of record within the area of a visit; digital photo displays of Vietnam veterans from the local area honored through VVMF's In Memory program which honors veterans who returned home from Vietnam and later died as a result of their service; video displays that teach about the history and impact of THE WALL and of the collection of items left at THE WALL in D.C.; educational exhibits told through items in the collection; a map of Vietnam and a chronological overview of the Vietnam War.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is one of the most visited memorials in our nation's capital, with more than 5.2 million visitors each year. However, many Americans have not been able to visit what has become known to many as "THE WALL." THE WALL THAT HEALS made its debut in 1996 and since then has been on display in nearly 600 U.S. communities in addition to an April 1999 tour of the Four Provinces of Ireland and a visit to Canada in 2005. Last year alone, more than 250,000 people visited THE WALL THAT HEALS. Hosting THE WALL THAT HEALS provides a community with a multi-day experience that includes an educational experience for local schools and organizations on the history of the Vietnam era and THE WALL.

"We are thrilled to share the new THE WALL THAT HEALS exhibit with the public this year," said Jim Knotts, president and CEO of VVMF. "Through THE WALL THAT HEALS, we are able to return the names home to communities across the country and allow Vietnam veterans and their family members who cannot make it to Washington, D.C. the opportunity to see THE WALL. It gives communities a teaching moment for younger generations on why we should honor those who have served and sacrificed so much."

VVMF coordinates local stops of THE WALL THAT HEALS and the accompanying mobile Education Center. The current schedule and more information can be found at www.thewallthatheals.org. The 2018 national THE WALL THAT HEALS tour is hauled through a partnership with the Truckload Carriers Association (TCA) and the trucking industry and generously sponsored by USAA, FedEx and GEICO. Locally, the OMA Alumni Association is raising funds to support the Claremore presentation of THE WALL THAT HEALS with remaining proceeds creating student scholarships for the Oklahoma Army National Guard's Guard Officer

Leadership Development (GOLD) program at RSU, one of only two such programs at Oklahoma universities.

Group and individual volunteer opportunities will be available throughout the exhibit's Claremore stop. For more information on supporting the Claremore appearance of THE WALL THAT HEALS through financial support or volunteer service, please contact Dr. Danette Boyle, Executive Director of the OMA Alumni Association, at 918-343-6888 or dboyle@rsu.edu.

About THE WALL replica

The three-quarter scale Wall replica is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. Like the original Memorial, THE WALL THAT HEALS is erected in a chevron-shape and for the first time in the history of THE WALL THAT HEALS, visitors will be able to do name rubbings of individual service member's names on THE WALL.

The replica is constructed of Avonite, a synthetic granite, and its 144 individual panels are supported by an aluminum frame. Machine engraving of the more than 58,000 names along with modern LED lighting provide better readability of THE WALL day and night.

The names on THE WALL THAT HEALS replicate the names on THE WALL in Washington, D.C. As on THE WALL, the names are listed alphabetically by day of casualty. Beginning at the center/apex,

the names start on the East Wall (right-hand side) working their way out to the end of that wing, picking up again at the far end of the West Wall (left-hand side) and working their way back in to the center/apex.

About the Mobile Education Center

A new 53-foot trailer transports THE WALL THAT HEALS from community to community. When parked, the trailer opens with exhibits built into its sides, allowing it to serve as a mobile Education Center. This unique educational experience gives visitors a better understanding of the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the collection of items left at THE WALL.

The mobile Education Center displays includes: digital photo displays of "Hometown Heroes" – service members whose names are on THE WALL that list their home of record within the area of a visit; digital photo displays of Vietnam veterans from the local area honored through VVMF's In Memory program which honors veterans who returned home from Vietnam and later died as a result of their service; video displays that teach about the history and impact of THE WALL and of the collection of items left at THE WALL in D.C.; educational exhibits told through items in the collection; a map of Vietnam and a chronological overview of the Vietnam War.



RSU GOLD Program students honor OMA Cadets killed in action during the Vietnam War.



RSU DESIGNATED AS PURPLE HEART UNIVERSITY

On December 20, 2017, the Northeast Oklahoma Military Order of the Purple Heart organization designated Rogers State University a "Purple Heart University." The designation signifies the university's recognition and honor of veterans who were wounded in combat while serving their country and are now pursuing higher education and careers at RSU. The university also has created a special parking space outside Prep Hall for Purple Heart recipients. The Northeast Oklahoma Military Order of the Purple Heart is a national nonprofit organization whose membership consists of veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart medal for wounds received in combat.

OMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION | JUNE 8-9, 2018

TO REGISTER, CONTACT DANETTE BOYLE AT 918-343-6888 OR EMAIL DBOYLE@RSU.EDU

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

- 8:00 a.m. REUNION REGISTRATION**
Meyer Hall, OMA Alumni Office and OMA Museum
- ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC**
Heritage Hills Golf Course 18 Hole Tournament
- 9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start Begins**
- 11:45 a.m. Golf Lunch**
- **1:45 p.m.** *Lunch is also available for alumni and guests not participating in golf.*
- 11:30 a.m. LADIES' LUNCHEON**
Hosted by RSU First Lady Peggy Rice
President's Residence, RSU Campus
Reservation required with maximum 40
- 5:30 p.m. REUNION OPENING RECEPTION AND BUFFET**
- **7:30 p.m.**
RSU Centennial Center Ballroom
- 6:30 P.M. DRILL COMPETITION**
RSU Centennial Center Ballroom
Winners will receive prizes

THE WALL THAT HEALS

will be open 24 hours a day during the OMA Alumni Reunion.

The three-quarter scale Wall replica is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. Like the original Memorial, THE WALL THAT HEALS is erected in a chevron-shape and for the first time in the history of THE WALL THAT HEALS, OMA Alumni, family and friends will be able to do name rubbings of individual service member's names on The Wall.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

- 8:00 a.m. REUNION REGISTRATION**
Meyer Hall, OMA Alumni Office and OMA Museum
Coffee and pastries
- 9:15 a.m. THE WALL THAT HEALS**
- **9:45 a.m. SPECIAL CEREMONY**
Honoring our 21 OMA Brothers KIA in Vietnam
- 10:00 a.m. ALUMNI CEREMONIES**
Will Rogers Auditorium
- Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame Ceremony
 - Honoring OMA's Recently Deceased Alumni
 - Color Guard presented by the RSU GOLD Program Military Students

11:45 a.m. ALUMNI LUNCHEON

*OMA Alumni who register and attend the Alumni Luncheon will be eligible to enter a drawing for **\$1,000**. You must be present to win. (OMA Alumni Board of Directors are not eligible for drawing.)*

Centennial Center

Special Guests: RSU and Southwestern Oklahoma State University GOLD Program Military Students

- Recognition of 2018 OMA Honorary Cadets and President's Awards

Immediately Following Luncheon

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Chapman Dining Hall

5:30 p.m. RECEPTION, DINNER, GRAND MARCH AND DANCE

RSU Centennial Center Ballroom

"Grand March" – Back by popular demand

7:30 p.m. Long time Tulsa favorites Jim Sweeney and Chris Campbell

RSU Centennial Center Ballroom

OMA ALUMNI 2018 HALL OF FAME AND DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HONOREES

HALL OF FAME



CPT Michael Casey '67
(Posthumous)

Captain Michael Casey's life was one of honor, outstanding achievement, and love.

He is described by his beloved sisters as "the precious light of our family. He was a great American Army hero who loved God, family, his OMA friends, and his country."

Michael Dale Casey grew up and spent much of his childhood in Sallisaw, Oklahoma. He was raised by his mother and seven older siblings, as his father died when he was 15 months old. He attended school in Sallisaw until 1962, when he began his studies at Oklahoma Military Academy. There he completed two years of high school and two years of Junior College. Casey was highly active and involved in Chapel Counsel, Drill Team, Saber Society, Outstanding Company, Best Drill Platoon, Chevron Society, Marching Band, and Judges Bench.

He also earned honors, including Military Proficiency Ribbon, Merit Ribbon, High School and College Drill Team Letter, Academic Achievement Wreath, and Outstanding Cadet Identification Disc. During his schooling, he also attended ROTC Ft Sill Summer Camp and was a MST Contract Student. He rose to the rank of Cadet Major.

OMA's training helped Casey to become an outstanding active duty Army infantry soldier. After graduating from OMA, he attended Oklahoma State University, where he was active in ROTC and studied Military Science.

A year later, in the summer of 1967, Casey enlisted for active duty for the U.S.

Army Reserve and was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant. He attended basic training in Fort Benning, Georgia, and later in Fort Hood, Texas. In September 1968, he was assigned to Vietnam. There he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant to the 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry, and Aero-Rifle Platoon Commander.

During Captain Casey's time in Vietnam, his troop, the "Ruthless Riders" was assigned to reconnaissance work and rescue missions, usually on foot or via helicopter deep in the jungle. His team captured the Viet Cong District Headquarters, the only successful headquarters capture by the U.S. during the entire Vietnam War. Commander of A-Troop, Major Marshall, described the bond between Casey and his troop: "His platoon showed more respect for him than any other officer. Mike would not send his men anywhere that he would not go himself." He recalls they called him "Blue" out of their deep respect for him.

After Casey's first tour in Vietnam, he then volunteered for an additional six months and rose to the rank of Captain. He was always very passionate about rescue missions, and even told his sister, "All those men left out in that jungle to die are some mother's sons, and I'm going to help save them if I can." He often spoke of being unafraid to die, and of his deep brotherly love for his comrades.

When he returned to Vietnam, he was first placed in a relatively safe area, but soon volunteered to move to a combat area. After 16 months in the Vietnam War, Captain Casey gave his life for his country on January 23, 1970. He volunteered to go on a deep jungle

rescue mission to rescue wounded comrades who had been left behind. He rescued two wounded men before going back for the third. He died with the third man in his arms, laying down his life for his brother.

"Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for a friend."
—John 15:13

Captain Casey was laid to rest in Sallisaw Cemetery with full military honors.

In his brief military career of 27 months (16 months in South Vietnam), Casey was awarded 16 medals: the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action, Air Medal for Meritorious Achievement in Aerial Flight, Army Commendation Medal for Heroism in Vietnam, two Bronze Star Medals for Valor, two Purple Hearts for Battle Wounds, Combat Infantryman's Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Sharpshooter Badge for Heroism, Helicopter Wings and the Republic of Vietnam National Order Fifth Class Ribbon.



Charles Emerson '56

Charles D. Emerson attended high school and junior college at OMA. He played trombone in the band, and he played football and basketball in high school and one semester of junior college. He then went on to attend Oklahoma State University for one semester.

Emerson enlisted in the Army Security Agency and attended Fort Devens, Massachusetts for training in Morse Code Intercept operations monitoring.

He became skilled in monitoring field operations of foreign enemies and sending the results to the National Security Agency (NSA). He was stationed at Baumholder, Germany for two years and Harrogate, England for six months. He was promoted to SP5 (E5) in 21 months.

Upon completing his three years tour of duty, Emerson returned to Oklahoma and was hired at Tinker Air Force Base to work in their Computer Data Center. He developed new skills working with IBM 305, 705 and 7080 computers. He worked the second shift at TAFB and attended the University of Oklahoma during the day where he received his degree in accounting. Upon graduation from OU, Emerson interviewed with General Electric (GE) and was hired immediately to work in the Engineering Department in Oklahoma City. One year later, GE decided to close operations. He then was hired at AT&T/Western Electric and spent the rest of his working career at Western Electric, retiring as a Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff (DMTS).

Emerson has been happily married for 52 years to his wife Delores. They have three grown children, Angela, a speech pathologists; Christopher, a medical doctor; and Robert, who earned a doctorate in civil engineering and serves as associate professor of structural engineering at OSU. All three children are graduates of OU. They also have 13 grandchildren.

Emerson states, "Attending OMA instilled in me how to organize and use my time efficiently. I believe it worked."



Willis C. Hardwick '56

Hardwick attended Oklahoma Military Academy from 1951 to 1956, serving as Corps Commander and

Commander of A Company during his last graduating year. He graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate in 1956 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University in January 1959. He was then commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, entering active service at the Army Air Defense Center in Fort Bliss, Texas where he was assigned to Orogrande Missile Range, White Sands, New Mexico. After serving multiple Air Defense, Army Aviation and General Staff assignments to include serving on the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, he retired in February 1980 in the grade of Lieutenant Colonel with 21 years active service.

Hardwick is a graduate of the U.S. Army Aviation Flight Training School in Fort Rucker, Alabama where he was awarded the Army Aviator Badge. After 15 years of flying and accumulating some 3,800 hours of accident-free flight time, 700 of which were during two tours in Vietnam, he earned the title Master Army Aviator. Hardwick is a graduate of the Army Air Defense Artillery Basic and Advanced Courses, the Army Command and General Staff College and the Department of Defense Systems Management College. His awards include the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Medal with Seven Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with One Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Army Distinguished Civilian Service Medal.

After retiring from active Army service, Willis joined the Raytheon Company as the Hampton Roads Virginia Business Development Manager. He later joined Vought Aerospace Corporation's Washington Operations, which became Loral Vought Systems Corporation and later merged with Lockheed Martin Corporation where he served some 24 years as the Company's Manager of Air

and Missile Defense business within the Washington, D.C. area.

During his service at the Raytheon Company and Lockheed Martin Corporation, Willis was an active member of the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) and was elected President, Virginia Peninsula Chapter AUSA and later elected President, 2nd Region AUSA. As President, 2nd Region, Willis served as a Trustee on the AUSA Council of Trustees and as a Member of the AUSA National Advisory Board where he promoted and assisted elected members of the Virginia General Assembly in legislating Virginia State Income Tax relief for Virginians serving on active duty. Willis was also an active member of the National Defense Industrial Association where he served as Chairman, Missile Defense Division and was awarded the Association's Gold Medal for Meritorious Service.

Willis graduated from the University of Kansas in May 1972 with a Master's Degree in Meteorology and authored articles related to weather in the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Monthly Weather Review, October 1973 and the U.S. Army Research & Development Magazine, September – October 1973.

2018 OMA Honorary Cadets

**Pat Elder
Julie Galvez
Julie Jones
Deann Ramsay**

Recipients will be honored at the OMA Alumni Reunion Saturday Luncheon, June 9, 2018. Their biographical information will be included in the Reunion Program.

Willis C. Hardwick retired February 2008 from the Lockheed Martin Corporation as Director, Air and Missile Defense, serving in Washington Operations providing corporate oversight over all matters pertaining to the Patriot Advanced Capability Phase 3 (PAC-3) Missile program. The PAC-3 Missile was the first anti-ballistic missile interceptor to emerge from President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and is deployed ready to defend multiple countries from potential short-range tactical missile attacks.

Willis and his wife, Jean reside in the Manors of Mount Vernon in Alexandria, Virginia. They have two sons, John of Lexington, Massachusetts, and Matthew of Richmond, Virginia, as well as four grandchildren, Jessica, Elizabeth, Kathrine, and William.



Ronald W. Maust '61
(Posthumous)

Growing up in a military family, Ron Maust traveled to many different duty stations where his father was assigned throughout the years. He excelled in sports at Department of Defense schools before graduating from Wiesbaden American High School in Germany where he was a member of the USAFE Championship basketball team at General H.H. Arnold High School.

Upon returning state side, Ron began his business degree studies at Oklahoma Military Academy. At the Academy, Ron was a "first shirt" and was also a member of both the Academy's Drill Team and Captain of the Demo Lau. The drill team won many state awards for precision and close quarter drills. Ron graduated from OMA in 1961 with the completion of his business degree. The family still has Ron's OMA foot locker, complete with OMA bumper stickers and it is the repository of all arts and crafts produced by his youngest granddaughter, Darby

Anne. Upon graduating from OMA, Ron enrolled in Oklahoma State University, earning a Bachelor of Science in Economics.

Upon returning to Virginia, he met and married his bride of 46 years, Brenda Staples Maust, and gained employment with National Bellas Hess, the parent company of GEX stores. Ron's first assignment was as Director of Public Relations of the Hampton location, a position that fit his jovial, welcoming, and outgoing personality perfectly. He was the recipient of many sales and marketing awards including Public Relations Director of the Year three times and Sales and Marketing Manager of the Year. His next assignment was as the East Coast Manager of GEX Department Stores public relations department including Albany and Latham, New York, Camden and Pennsauken, New Jersey, and the three stores in the Hampton Roads region of Southeastern Virginia. The GEX Columbia, South Carolina location was added the following year. In 1970, Ron became the Operations Manager of the Portsmouth store. A year later he was assigned as the Operation Manager of the Hampton location coming full circle as this is the location where he began his career with GEX in 1965.

In 1976, Ron left GEX to pursue his career in the private security services industry, founding Old Dominion Security. The company provided uniformed, unarmed, and armed private security officers to commercial and governmental clients. Ron first established himself in the local market, then began expanding, with offices in Hampton, Phoebus, Norfolk and Williamsburg. As the Federal Government created "small business set asides," the demand for well-managed service businesses, built on sound business principles grew exponentially. Ron Maust proved to be the right man, with the right skills, at the right time. His business flourished, expanding through

government contracts across the United States. Such endeavors led to offices/operations in 11 states and two U.S territories, dominating the southeastern Virginia market and eclipsing \$50 million in sales during its 20th year of business. Despite having more than 600 security professionals at its height and tremendous responsibilities at critical U.S. government locations, Ron always claimed to be proudest that "Krispy Kreme donuts trusts my company to keep its building safe on the one day a year it closes, Christmas Day!"

Over 25 years, Ron grew his company to one of the largest privately owned of its kind in the industry, with an appropriate moniker, "Locally Owned, Nationally Known" emblazoned on the signage. What makes Ron's success as a business person all the more remarkable is that just about the time he was embarking upon his journey with Old Dominion Security, challenging health problems had become a part of his daily life. Mobility problems had led him to see numerous doctors and they referred him to the Mayo Clinic. Enduring excruciating biopsies, Ron finally received the diagnosis that he had Pompeii's Disease, the rarest form of Muscular Dystrophy. With the technical name of Acid Maltese Deficiency Disease, Ron's condition meant that his body could not process or expel a common, mundane substance in the human body. This substance slowly encased his muscles, hardened and steadily decreased his mobility. Ron's instructions from his doctor were to "go home, sign up for disability and enjoy the next six months as best you can, because you are going to die, maybe even as soon as today." Despite this diagnosis, the father of four young children returned to work and resiliently spent each day knowing it could be his last. Blessedly, the diagnosis was off by more than 30 years, and despite a steady progression of the disease, resulting in decreasing mobility, from needing assistance to get up from special chairs, to a walker, to a wheel chair and eventually to a

ventilator, Ron persevered and his family and business thrived.

His oldest daughter Nicole manages a successful business in the private security field, his daughter Noel teaches autistic students and his son Brock is an Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Sadly, his daughter Tiffany, a nurse, passed away prematurely due to an unrelated health issue. Collectively, his children had 10 grandchildren, 8 of which Ron lived long enough to meet and spoil.

Ron was recognized by the community for his business prowess and community support through his recognition as a Paul Harris Fellow by the Hampton Rotary Club in 2010. He passed away in 2011.



Bill Ramsay '61

Bill Ramsay graduated from OMA High School in 1961 after spending two years at OMA, achieving the rank of Master Sergeant

while also serving as lead guitar player in the OMA rock 'n' roll Band. He later graduated from The University of Tulsa with a bachelor's degree in Business Management. Ramsay began his 40-year career in telecommunications at Southwestern Bell, working in the mailroom while attending college. After graduation, he held many different positions in Oklahoma and in St. Louis including sales, technical support, and marketing. He then went to AT&T at the time of the breakup of the Bell System. In 1986, Ramsay joined WilTel, a telecommunications subsidiary of the Williams Companies in Tulsa. He became a five-time recipient of the WilTel Presidents Club Award.

During this time, Ramsay and a team of executives planned and executed several acquisitions, along with negotiating large domestic and international customer

contracts. The company was ultimately acquired by Verizon, and he retired from there in 2007 as Director of Global Wholesale Accounts. Since leaving Verizon, Ramsay has been developing a portrait and event photography business, along with an internet marketing company.

Ramsay has been actively involved in civic and community activities for many years including the United Way, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Junior Achievement and the Adopt a School program. He believes that his OMA experience had a major positive influence in his life and has strived to preserve the OMA legacy by being very active in the OMA Alumni Association, serving as President of the Board of Directors for three years, and playing a key role in the production of the OMA documentary. Ramsay still plays his guitar and harmonica around town occasionally, and he and his wife Deann reside in Tulsa, enjoying their three children and four grandchildren.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



Bob Hancock '71

Bob Hancock attended OMA for Junior College from 1969 through 1971. His goal in attending OMA was to complete the accelerated two-year ROTC Program to obtain an Officer's Commission. During his time at OMA, he reached the rank of Captain. Hancock was a member of the Chevron Society and the Officers Club, and he received the Distinguished Military Graduate ribbon.

After his time at OMA, Hancock attended Oklahoma State University, graduating in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science Degree. Hancock entered active duty in September 1973 and was assigned to Ordnance Corps, stationed at Aberdeen

Proving Grounds in Maryland. He remained on reserve duty until 1981.

Hancock was hired as the Property and Facilities Manager for Bank of Oklahoma Corporation in 1978 where he was responsible for management, maintenance, leasing, and construction of all bank-owned facilities. He remained with BOK for 14 years, leaving in 1992 to start his own construction and developing business. Beginning in 1992, Hancock and his wife developed a successful full-service residential construction company building high end (more than \$1 million) homes from in-house architecture and design through completion. They later branched out into commercial development and senior living facilities.

Hancock has been married to Laurie for 25 years. While he has no children of his own, Laurie has three children and eight grandchildren.

Hancock came to OMA with the goal of obtaining a U.S. Army Commission, but failed to realize how much more he would gain from his time there. The lessons learned and the sense of responsibility instilled as Cadets formed the foundation for him to gain the success that he has had in life. Standing in formation directly below the flag as it was lowered for the last time in 1971 was a deeply emotional time for him, knowing that he had been a part of such an important institution to so many people.



Bill Hayes '59

Bill Hayes graduated from OMA High School in 1959. Hayes served as President of the Senior Class, earned President's Honor Roll,

Best Drilled Cadet, Outstanding Cadet ID Disk, and was editor of the "Guidon." He was also a member of the Chevron

Society, "O" Club, Cadet Capers, OMA Band, and the Honor Society while lettering in basketball and rifle team. He was the first DeMolay MC.

After receiving extensive Navy training in Aviation Electronics, Hayes flew aboard Early Warning aircraft flying 8- to 15-hour missions over the North Atlantic DEW line while based in Newfoundland and Iceland and later in similar AD-5Q missions from the USS Independence.

After his discharge from the military, Hayes joined Hughes Aircraft and worked on the first commercial communications satellite (Early Bird) program providing Europe/US 24/7 telephony. This was the dawn of the "via satellite" era. He was the Test Director for S/C in the constellation that established the first world wide communications capability.

Hayes served as mission director for the first domestic communications systems satellites for the United States, Canada, Japan, Indonesia, and India and with S/C for special applications such as aircraft-ground communications, satellite direct TV/Radio, and weather cloud cover pics/data.

Hayes managed the selection, procurement, and integration of launch vehicles for SS/L S/C from the world's inventory and directed the planning and execution of launch campaigns at launch sites in the US, Russia, Ukraine, French Guinea, China, and Japan.

Hayes has been responsible for all aspects of satellite manufacturing including systems engineering, integration, test, launch, mission control centers, and flight operations including the design, manufacture, and operation of support equipment for these disciplines. At his retirement, SS/L was the recognized world's leader in large reliable commercial satellites.

Hayes and his wife, Barbara, enjoy spoiling their six grandkids. He contributes to national veteran's affairs (member of American Legion) and to fellow vets at the local veterans hospital. Hayes believes his abilities to recognize other people's talents/limitations, assign them appropriately, and to motivate/execute teamwork were derived through the leadership skills he attained from his OMA experience.



Steve Smith '65

Steve Smith came to OMA by default. His father worked for Creole Petroleum Corporation (a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey) in Venezuela. He attended the company-owned school for dependents through the eighth grade. There were no English speaking high schools where they lived, so it became necessary for him to attend a boarding school in the U.S. OMA was the obvious choice since the family was from Oklahoma. While at OMA, Smith served as treasurer of his freshman class, was recognized on the Dean's Honor Roll all but two semesters, and was on the Chapel Foundation. He was in the Marching Band and received the Band Award all four years. He also received the Merit Ribbon, Outstanding Company Award, Outstanding Cadet Identification Disk, and was awarded the Outstanding Military Science and Tactics Four award at the '65 Graduation parade by General Smoller. Smith was also a member of the Chevron Society, the State Honor Society, and the Radio Club.

Smith graduated from OMA High School in spring 1965 and enrolled at the University of Oklahoma that same year. While there, he studied Mechanical Engineering and enrolled in the OU Army ROTC program. He found their ROTC to be relatively easy after four years of OMA, and as he was enrolling in the

ROTC, he was asked "what would you like to be." Smith replied First Sergeant would be OK and they let him have it. He then formed the company up and marched them to the parade field.

Smith spent the majority of his working career in the electrical utility industry. He retired from Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, where he spent 16 years as Chief Scheduler. His duties there included buying and selling energy and capacity for the member cities that make up OMPA. He then went to work for the American Electric Power company in Tulsa as an Electrical System Operator. After the northeast blackout of 2003, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation required all System Operators that operated the bulk electrical grid to be certified by the NERC. Smith held the highest certification for system operators (Reliability) for 16 years to insure the company was never in a position to lose control and encounter cascading outages, even at the expense of their own customers. During Oklahoma's crippling 2007 ice storm, the extensive training paid off and the majority of its customers were back online in less than five days.

During the summer months while attending OMA, Smith would fly back to Venezuela to be with his family. During this time, he served as a youth counselor at their nondenominational church summer camp, Campamento Maranatha. It was a church camp for expats as well as local kids at the beach on Lake Maracaibo. Smith was on the Board of Trustees at his church in Oklahoma City, the New Hope United Methodist Church. He has also served his neighborhood in various capacities as HOA president.

Smith currently serves on the OMA Alumni Board of Directors.

Smith was born in Cushing, Oklahoma in 1947 and attended Cushing schools until his family moved to Venezuela in 1958. Smith married Kathy in May 2007 in San Antonio, Texas, with the nuptials planned around the reunion being held there of students who attended the company school he attended during middle school. Their wedding party included people they went to grade school with, as Kathy lived a block from him when they were kids and her father worked for the same company as his father. Smith was their paper boy. Smith says, "You just never know what fate has in store for you." Smith is proud of his two grown children: Carol, a civil engineer for Oklahoma Gas and Electric, who lives in Fort Gibson with her husband Jon and his only grandchild, Joe; and Travis, a mechanical engineer who works for Lockheed-Martin and lives in Azle, Texas with his wife Lynn.

Life at OMA for Smith was tough in the beginning. He was probably the most homesick kid on The Hill, as he had never been away from home. It became easier the second semester and the years that followed. The most important thing he learned was the value of being independent, truthful, and responsible for your actions. He learned that good things came with good behavior and following the rules, and above all, telling the truth. Smith has made lifelong friends while at OMA and said he wouldn't trade that time for anything. Smith's experience at OMA has served him well throughout his adult life, and as a result, he and his wife Kathy have established an endowment scholarship in the name of his parents, Carl and Nelda Smith. He hopes this will help students in the RSU GOLD Program have an opportunity for a good education.



Dewey Wilson Jr. '66

Dewey F. Wilson, Jr. attended OMA from August 1964 to January 1966. His highest rank held was Staff Sergeant and he was a member of the Color Guard. Wilson was involved with the Chapel Foundation, DeMolay, New Cadet Detail and Cadet Capers. He was awarded the Military Proficiency Ribbon and Merit Ribbon.

After OMA, Wilson enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, serving from 1966 to 1969 followed by two years inactive reserve. In 1973, he re-entered the Air Force and served in Intelligence Operations until February 1, 1990, when he retired with the rank of Master Sergeant culminating a 22-year career. His career included positions from Intelligence Operations Specialist to Intelligence Operations Superintendent. Wilson served in various assignments worldwide. Decorations awarded to him included the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal (four awards), Air Force Good Conduct Medal (six awards), Armed Forces Expeditionary Service Medal, and Korea Defense Service Medal. His professional military education included NCO Leadership School, NCO Academy, and Senior NCO Academy.

Wilson graduated from Oklahoma City University in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Arts and received a Distinguished Achievement Award. He then went on to work as a buyer in the Tulsa County Purchasing Department obtaining and managing bids for goods and services for various county departments and retired in 2005.

Wilson volunteered from 2008 to 2017 at Arms Around BA, a mission of several Baptist churches in the Broken Arrow area. He also is involved with the Military Living History group for the 45th Infantry Division Museum in Oklahoma City. Wilson is also a collector of military memorabilia/artifacts from World War I to Vietnam and has provided numerous military displays around the state of Oklahoma to include displays at Ft. Sill, Tinker AFB, Tulsa Marine Corps League's annual Medal of Honor events, the National WWII Museum (formerly the D-Day Museum) in New Orleans, and the Eisenhower Museum in Abilene, Kansas.

On January 1, 2017, Wilson became Curator of the Oklahoma Military Academy Museum and was appointed to the OMA Alumni Board in summer 2017.

Wilson and his wife Nona have been married for 43 years. They have one married daughter and two grandchildren who live in Broken Arrow. In his spare time, he creates fine art graphic illustrations using various mediums.

Wilson states, "After having attended OMA, and going through the 'RABBIT' period, Air Force Basic Training was a breeze. OMA's military discipline/training attributed to my success in my military career."



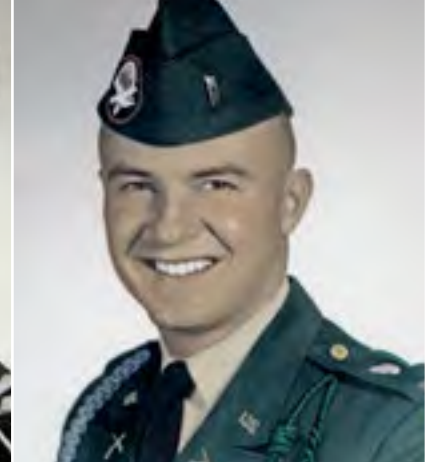
Michael D. Casey '66



John C. Egger, Jr. '50



John B. Stizza '59



Sam R. Trizza, Jr. '63

HONORING OMA CADETS KIA – VIETNAM WAR

To date, families of the following OMA Cadets KIA; Michael D. Casey, John C. Egger, Jr, John B. Stizza and Sam R. Trizza, Jr. are planning to attend the 2018 OMA Alumni Reunion and visit THE WALL THAT HEALS. A special invitation is extended to all families of the OMA Cadets KIA in Vietnam.

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY CADETS KILLED IN ACTION IN THE VIETNAM WAR

Stephen C. Beals

Joe L. Biffle Jr.

John E. Black

Bradley D. Bowers

Michael D. Casey

John C. Egger Jr.

James R. Fortenberry

Donald O. Hartman

Michael D. Hyatt

George W. McDonough

Lionel E. Parsons

William D. Reynolds

Drew D. Shipley

John B. Stizza

John R. Stockdale

Sam R. Trizza Jr.

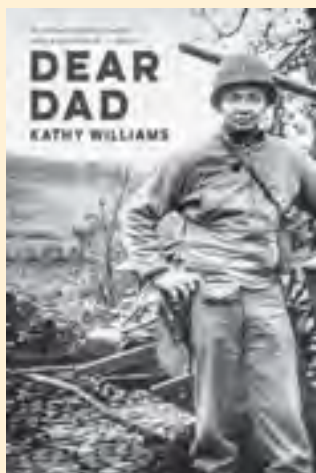
Theodore D. Ward

Victor D. Westphall III

William R. Wilson

Craig M. Yancey

Daniel W. York



BOOK AVAILABLE DETAILING LIFE OF OMA GRAD, GENERAL

Judson F. Miller was a 1942 OMA High School graduate who gave 34 years of service in the U.S. Army, beginning as a 2nd Lieutenant in WWII where he commanded a tank platoon of 20 men and five tanks. He fought in Hurtgen Forest and the Battle of the Bulge. He went on to fight in Korea and Vietnam. By the end of his career, he had attained the rank of General. He was inducted into the OMA Hall of Fame in 1988. Kathy Williams, daughter of General Miller and author of the book "Dear Dad," will have copies available to purchase and autograph. This book contains more than 60 of General Miller's WWII letters and includes some of his adventures while at OMA.

OMA ALUMNI UPDATE: IT IS GOOD IN GUTHRIE!

Many alumni from the 1950s and 1960s still remember the outstanding Al Good Orchestra playing at formals, graduations and dances. His son, Gary Good '68, has continued the tradition of not only the Al Good Orchestra but Gary and his Good Company Band still play "gigs" around the United States. He helps coordinate donation of musical instruments to local students who can't afford them. A true entrepreneur, Gary is not only involved in the music business but in historic downtown Guthrie. He operates the Gallery Grazioso, a unique art gallery in an old Pabst Milwaukee Brewing

Company building built in 1902 that includes fine art by local and national artists. In addition, Good runs the Gary Good Entertainment and Speakers Bureau and serves on numerous Guthrie historical boards and on the Oklahoma City Arts Commission since 1985.

Finally, if anyone is planning a trip or event in Oklahoma City or Guthrie, Good operates Guthrie Retreat (www.guthrieretreat.com) rated one of Guthrie's top Bed and Breakfasts and event spaces, which includes The Magnolia Moon, Magnolia Manor, Suite

Bettie Jean, Maestro Suite, Gardenia Suite and The Isabella Suite. If any alumni would like to speak with Gary Good, he can be reached at 405-209-4279 or e-mail him at: gg@garygood.com. Talk about an impressive OMA Alumni...it is Gary Good in Guthrie, Oklahoma!

OMA Alumni Update is a new column that will appear in every *Guidon*. If you have a story on what you are currently doing, please e-mail OMA Alumni President Phil Goldfarb at phil.goldfarb@cox.net.

OMA MUSEUM REPORT



OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY MUSEUM

OMA MUSEUM WORKING TO PROMOTE REGIONAL TOURISM

The Oklahoma Military Academy Museum has recently become involved in the Claremore Museums Coalition, a new partnership of museums in Claremore. The OMA Museum is a founding member of the coalition along with the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, the J.M. Davis Arms and Historical Museum, and the Claremore Museum of

History. The purpose of this coalition is to bring public awareness and promote attendance at these four museums in the City of Claremore. This newly formed coalition will help bolster area tourism by positioning Claremore as "Museum City" to benefit Claremore and Rogers County. These museums are supported by the Claremore EXPO & Tourism Development and City of Claremore.

Claremore Museums Coalition events will be hosted on a quarterly basis, and its first event was "Night at the Museums," a scavenger hunt-themed event held Feb. 22.

MUSEUM UPDATE

In the past few months, the OMA Museum has obtained a tunic and cadet hat that were the very types worn by OMA Cadets from 1919-1923. Maj. Gen. TP Malishenko, USAF (retired) gifted his U.S. Air Force Class A Uniform, which has been added to his display case beside his OMA Cadet uniform. Brown shoes have been put on the cadet mannequin next to the Ramsey display case and on the mannequin of the cadet NCO in the cadet room. This was in keeping with the period uniform displayed by both mannequins.



Left to right: Ken Colley '69, Bill Nipper '69, David Cammack '69, David Ellenburg '71 and Dan Bolt '69.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: An OMA Alumnus is offering \$1,000 to THE WALL THAT HEALS/ GOLD Program Scholarship Fund for any one or more of the Alumni pictured above who attend the 2018 OMA Alumni Reunion.



Left to right: Bill Aycock, Ed Ramsey '37 and Jerry Galbreath and Sgt. Fox during a Polo game with Texas A&M on March 1, 1939.



OMA Alumnus, John Helbing '67 serving in the Vietnam War.



OMA CADETS IN PHOTOS



OMA Alumni, Harry Simpson '65 serving in the Vietnam War.

2018 GOLD PROGRAM STUDENTS



Left to right, 1st row: : Jacalyn Honeywell**, Trey Weiesnbach, Raymond Smith*, Joshua Marsh*, Rhett Ables**and Gerald Alexander. 2nd row, left to right: William Heath, Will Garrison, Jake Norum, Jerrod Quindt**, Shawn McCrary and Arthur Rowland. Not pictured: Joshua Eldridge**

*Dean's Honor Roll Fall 2017 **President's Honor Roll Fall 2017



OMA Board of Directors member Darrell Wooster '62 with RSU GOLD Program student Joshua Eldridge.



RSU GOLD Program student Jacalyn Honeywell is also a student worker responsible for covering the RSU switchboard and greeting visitors and guests for the offices in Meyer Hall including the President's office.



RSU GOLD Program student Raymond Smith who was awarded a scholarship from the Colonel Ed Ramsey Scholarship Endowment.



RSU GOLD Program students Jacalyn Honeywell, Jerrod Quindt and Joshua Eldridge pictured with OMA Board of Directors members Jim Morrison '52, Bill Harris '54 and Harry Simpson '65.



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CLAREMORE HOTEL INFORMATION

(Please make your reservations early to ensure availability)

Hampton Inn & Suites

Special OMA rate:
\$89.00 + tax
1811 S. Scissortail Ave.
Claremore, OK
918-965-1360
800-426-7866 (toll free)
www.hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

Special OMA rate:
\$79.00 + tax
1400 W. Country Club
Claremore, OK
918-283-4877
800-465-4329 (toll free)
www.holidayinnexpress.com

La Quinta Inn & Suites

Special OMA rate:
\$82.00 + tax
774 S. Lynn Riggs Blvd
Claremore, OK
918-965-1877
800-753-3757 (toll free)
www.LQ.com

Microtel Inn & Suites

10600 E Mallard Lake Rd
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www.microtelinn.com

Super 8

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866-302-6438 (toll free)
www.super8.com

Will Rogers Inn

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www.willrogersinn.com