



COURAGE LOYALTY HONOR • YESTERDAY TODAY TOMORROW

SEARCH IS ON FOR KIA FAMILY MEMBERS PLANNING FOR MEMORIAL DEDICATION IN 2011 UNDER WAY

When Gene Little ('56) first arrived at the OMA Museum as the new volunteer curator, he could not help but be drawn to the faces of the men pictured in the deteriorating Killed In Action display.

As an OMA cadet alumnus, he had agreed to take on the job of organizing, securing, and displaying the history of his alma mater because it is near and dear to his heart.

Two years ago, he led a successful campaign to raise funds to reframe and upgrade the KIA photo tribute. What he learned as he worked on the restoration project touched him

profoundly. Today, along with fellow alumnus Charles Emerson ('56) and OMA Alumni Vice President Phil Goldfarb ('69), Little knows many of the stories behind the faces, but sadly, not all of them.

Since the announcement that a permanent, granite-faced KIA Memorial will become a reality in Spring 2011, documenting the stories of these war heroes, reconnecting with their families, and finalizing the list of names to be inscribed on the monument has become a priority.

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OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI NAMED TO HALLS OF FAME



LEW WARD NAMED TO OKLAHOMA HERITAGE ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

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Dr. Bill Banowsky presents Lew Ward a memento of his induction into the 2010 Oklahoma Hall of Fame.



LT. COL. EDWIN RAMSEY NAMED TO OKLAHOMA MILITARY HALL OF FAME

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Lt. Col. Edwin Ramsey, left, and Bill Melton, Hall of Fame coordinator for Ramsey, hold the certificate of Ramsey's induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Randy Vierling

Dear fellow alumni,

As this holiday season approaches, I reflect back and realize our lives and our careers have merely been a vehicle to build up our faith and to test our resolve to demonstrate the character qualities of Courage, Loyalty, and Honor. Sometimes we have passed the test heroically, other times we have failed miserably. (Thank God for Grace.) But after

all is done, the only thing we have left, and it's the most important thing, is each other, family, and friends.

RELATIONSHIPS: That's what it's been about from the beginning; the treasure of each other. That is why most of us make the annual pilgrimage back to The Hill, some using walkers and on oxygen and some with a spring still in their step; nevertheless we come, to celebrate and to cherish the treasure of each other.

I pray that the desire of our heart this season be to refresh others with our presence, our council, our friendship, and our encouragement, that we may truly reflect the time of peace and reconciliation that this season represents.

My wish for each of you is peace, health, prosperity, and great hope and confidence in what the future holds.

May God bless each of you this coming year.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Randy Vierling".

P. S. Please pray for the successful completion of the OMA KIA Memorial so we may properly remember the friends we have lost, and that it will be worthy of the extreme sacrifice they have made. We also look forward to as many alumni as possible gathering in June to be part of this great and historic moment in OMA's history.

SEARCH FOR KIA

Continued from page 1

"It's not an easy job," said Brandi Sutherland, alumni coordinator. She has been working with Little, Emerson, and Goldfarb on the project.

Sutherland explained that those who served and died in Vietnam and Korea can be tracked through military records and war databases, and cross-referenced with other reputable memorial listings. However, World War II records are impossible to come by.

"We have a few pages out of the yearbooks from the WWII era that list names of those Killed in Action, but this is where verification gets tricky, as we aren't always able to find an actual date of death or a complete war record to determine if they are eligible to be listed as a KIA," she said.

Some members of the OMA Alumni Board recall a bronze plaque listing names of WWII dead displayed on one of the tanks on the OMA campus before it became a community college. The whereabouts of that plaque are unknown. Anyone who may have information about the plaque is encour-

aged to call the Alumni Office.

"We want this to be a complete and verifiable list," Goldfarb said. "It is also important that we document, as much as possible, the families and stories behind these names. This is not only a part of our history; it is also a legacy testament that will be seen, read, reflected upon, and hopefully remembered by generations to come."

The current list of names nominated for inscription on the KIA Memorial can be viewed at www.rsu.edu/oma/memorial-kia.asp. If you have information on the meritorious actions of these men, living families, or others not yet identified, contact Sutherland at (918) 343-7773 or bsutherland@rsu.edu.



KIA MEMORIAL UPDATE

PROJECT ON TRACK FOR COMPLETION BY REUNION 2011

The Rogers State University Foundation has received more than half the funds toward the \$125,000 goal to build the OMA Killed In Action Memorial on the RSU campus in Claremore.

"Thanks to the generosity of so many, we have the funding on hand to move forward with building the memorial and are confident we will meet and even exceed our overall goal by Reunion 2011," said Danette Boyle, RSU Vice President for Development. On November 30, the gifts received totaled \$84,142.50, 67 percent of the goal.

Boyle has been working on behalf of OMA Alumni, in conjunction with President Larry Rice and OMA Alumni President Randy Vierling, to secure the appropriate releases and contractual paperwork to clear the way for the physical work to begin.

The OMA Board and RSU officials signed the contract with Si Memorials in December. Si Memorials is a division of Suhor Industries, Inc., a monument construction company with offices in Tulsa. The architect for the project is OMA alumnus Bob Wright ('53) with LWPB Architects and Planners, LLC, an Oklahoma City firm. A Letter of Intent was signed with Si Memorials in October.

Construction costs have increased since the initial planning for the project began earlier this year. "After talking with the Si Memorials representative and visiting with (Bob), we now know the final costs are expected to come in around \$79,000," Boyle said.

The agreed-upon completion date is May 15, 2011. A dedication ceremony for the memorial will be the highlight of the June 4, 2011, reunion activities. All gifts received by March 31, 2011, will be permanently recognized as part of a KIA Memorial display in the OMA Museum.

"I would like to remind those who have made pledges that paying their gifts before December 31 of this year will give them a great tax deduction. And, to everyone who has not yet made a decision regarding a gift to the KIA Memorial, I want to remind them that this is a worthy cause, a physical reminder of the OMA legacy, and a way to perpetuate the memory of our fellow cadets who gave it all," Vierling said.

For information on how to be part of the OMA KIA Memorial project, contact Danette Boyle, Vice President of Development, at dboyle@rsu.edu or call (918) 343-7773.

OMA KIA MEMORIAL GIVING LEVELS

- Diamond level contributors, giving \$7,500 or more, will be presented an OMA KIA Memorial stone replica appropriate for display in home and office. These individuals will be recognized by name and photo on a Memorial donor plaque to be displayed in the OMA Museum.
- Platinum level contributors, giving \$5,000 to \$7,499, will receive an engraved OMA KIA Memorial crystal paperweight and be recognized by name on a Memorial donor plaque.
- Gold level contributors, giving \$2,500 to \$4,999, will receive a framed 8X10 photo of the Memorial and be listed by name on a Memorial donor plaque.
- Silver level contributors, giving \$1,000 to \$2,499, will receive a photo of the Memorial and be listed by name on a Memorial donor plaque.
- Bronze level contributors, giving \$500 to \$999, will be recognized by a listing of their individual names on a distinguished plaque in the OMA Museum.

ROTC UPDATE: PRESIDENT RICE SENDS LETTER TO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION



President Larry Rice reviews ROTC application materials.

On November 1, a letter of endorsement from Senator James Inhofe and Congressman Dan Boren, along with Rogers State University's Reserved Officer's Training Corps application, was delivered to the U.S. Army Cadet Command.

The formal appeal to Senator Inhofe for his support was a very important step as the University moves forward with its request to re-establish a Senior Army ROTC

Unit on the Claremore campus. Congressman Boren's office provided direction for the University's initial application work and will continue to work in conjunction with Inhofe's office.

Inhofe is a senior member of the Oklahoma Delegation in Washington and a ranking member of the Senate Armed Forces Committee. Boren has served on the House Armed Forces Committee.

Interest in bringing ROTC back to The Hill, where thousands of Oklahoma Military Academy cadets once participated in the program as part of their day-to-day training, has gained momentum since Dr. Larry Rice returned to the campus to assume the presidency in 2008.

"We believe RSU is geographically located and institutionally prepared to serve a large, currently underserved population of high school- and college-age individuals who would

benefit greatly from the opportunities a Senior ROTC program could provide," Rice said.

Research indicates northeastern Oklahoma, including the city of Tulsa, has a documented potential for supporting a senior-level military leadership training program. Eight Junior Army ROTC Units exist in the metropolitan area with only one out of five Senior ROTC Units in the state located on the eastern side of the state.

The University also has a well-established success record in providing academic degrees and educational programs aligned with specific priority training needs identified for today's military: nursing, computer science, business administration, and the social sciences. University staff has also identified facilities, training sites, and resources suitable to support an ROTC program.

"We are also extremely grateful to have the ongoing support of the OMA alumni. They, more than anyone associated with this University, understand the benefits this type of leadership program can bring to the students we serve," Rice said.

Senior Army ROTC was an integral component of OMA from 1930 to 1971 (OMA closed in 1971, but ROTC continued through 1973 at Claremore Junior College for the benefit of the remaining students).

HISTORICAL NOTE:

The first Senior ROTC Unit on The Hill was established in 1930 when the War Department, through a special act of Congress, authorized a Senior Unit of both Cavalry and Infantry. With the addition of these two senior units, the 1931 *Guidon* reported that the stock of material for military instruction had tripled. Sixty cavalry horses, with all necessary equipment for their use and care, were placed at the school. (*Paraphrased from the 1931 OMA Guidon*)

GUIDON

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Printed December 2010

NEW BUSINESS VENTURE BY OMA ALUMNI PROVIDES UNIQUE GIFTS, BENEFITS CHARITIES



Phil Goldfarb (left) and Bill Ramsay display U.S. census records, one of the many historical documents available through their new service, www.apageofhistory.com.

Phil Goldfarb '69 and Bill Ramsay '61 had never met until finding themselves on the OMA Alumni Board together this past year. Phil, a retired Vice President of Operations for Cardinal Health, a Fortune 17 company, and Bill, a retired Director of Sales at Verizon, noted synergies in their experience to develop a unique gift/memorabilia/historical/educational product.

"I have always been interested in genealogy and history, and my goal was to take my hobby and make it into a business after I retired" said Goldfarb. Ramsey had the expertise as a photographer and marketer to help him with this project.

"My idea was to find unusual and rare records of famous individuals in history and make them available for sale on the internet. Most people have never even seen an actual census record, passport application, World War I or II draft registration, or social security application, which are really snapshots of history," according to Goldfarb. "Bill took each document, cleaned them up, sharpened the printing, right-sized them for framing, and made them ready to print and sell. That fit right into what I was looking for."

The company website, www.APageofHistory.com, has that unique, unusual, remarkable, and thoughtful gift for the person who has everything.

"Can you imagine, as an example, having a copy of the actual census record of Abraham Lincoln from 1860 (his last before he was assassinated) indicating that he is a lawyer and having a personal real estate value of \$5,000 and a personal estate value of \$12,000, or the actual copy of George S. Patton's passport application that he filled out on his way



Census records of Thomas Alva Edison and a passport application of Henry Ford are just two of the historical documents available as gifts through the company recently founded by Phil Goldfarb and Bill Ramsay.

to compete in the military pentathlon for the 1912 Olympics, or if you were like most OMA cadets who drank a little beer on occasion, having Adolph Coors' 1880 census indicating that he is a 'Proprietor of a Brewery' on your office wall?," Goldfarb said. "We call it 'Owning a Page of History.'"

Goldfarb said the site contains something for every enthusiast with more than 1,000 documents suitable for framing and printed on environmentally friendly parchment paper for more than 450 individuals in history broken down into categories such as Sports, Politics, Business, Entertainment, and Famous/Infamous.

He is starting with census records back to 1850 as well as passport applications from 1852 with other records to follow. These are not available anywhere else on the web in a format that includes a "narrative" of what you are reading, Goldfarb said.

"We priced these for under \$20 so that they would be very affordable gifts," he said. "Each month, we are going to contribute a percentage of our profits to various charities (Heart, Cancer, Diabetes, Arthritis, Alzheimer, ALS, or others) on a rotating basis."

Asked why he is donating the money to these causes, Goldfarb replied, "I had bladder cancer two years ago and am now cancer free...others are not as lucky. Most people have other cancers, heart disease, Alzheimer's, or diabetes somewhere in their family, so this is my way of helping to find cures and giving back. But mostly this is the right and responsible thing to do as a business person. These are the values that I learned at OMA, besides Courage, Loyalty, and Honor."

STOVER USES NAYSAYERS AS CATALYST



Smokey Stover ('56), who grew up in Oklahoma, played for the Kansas City Chiefs in the first Super Bowl. MICHAEL WYKE/Tulsa World

Stewart "Smokey" Stover ('56) is sort of a forgotten figure in Oklahoma sports lore.

Maybe the reason is because so many seasons have passed since Stover, 72, played for the Kansas City Chiefs in an epic little game called Super Bowl I.

Or maybe it's because of the out-of-sight, out-of-mind factor. Stover played college ball at Louisiana-Monroe. And, post-football, he put a geology degree to use and settled in south Louisiana instead of returning to the state where he was raised.

During an 11-month span in 1967, Stover played in an American Football League championship game, a Super Bowl and a Canadian Football League championship game (Grey Cup). His teams prevailed in two of the three, and he finished his career with two AFL title rings.

But never mind how Stover finished. A better story is how he started. He got his foot in pro football's door by executing a grand deception.

Stover said he was among 129 men who showed up at a tryout when the Dallas Texans launched an AFL franchise in 1960.

"It was so damn hot out there," Stover said. "It was unreal. And when it got down to making the team, I was so skinny because they had run me to death."

Stover knew coaches would never keep a 188-pound linebacker, so he resorted to trickery.

Before a scheduled weigh-in, he took two 10-pound weights and wrapped one under each arm with Ace band-aids. He tipped the scales at 208.

After the season, Stover confessed to the coach who supervised the weigh-in.

"And he started dying laughing because he and (head coach Hank) Stram had a knock-down, drag-out (argument) over me," Stover said. "Stram said 'the kid, he can't weigh 208. He's a bag of bones.' (And the assistant coach) said, 'hell, I weighed him. I know what he weighs.'"

Stover was one of two men from the 129-man tryout to land a roster spot. He hinted that he learned survival skills - or whatever-shenanigans-are-necessary skills - while attending a military high school [Oklahoma Military Academy] in Claremore.

Claremore isn't the only Oklahoma town Stover called home. He was raised near Oilton and attended first through eighth grades in tiny Vidaway. His parents relocated to Seminole, and that's when he headed to military school. NFL data banks list Stover as a Seminole graduate, but that's as false as his weight in Roswell.

Because Stover's Chiefs (they moved from Dallas to Kansas City in 1963) won an AFL title on Jan. 1, 1967, they earned the right to face the NFL champ Green Bay Packers two weeks later in Super Bowl I.

"There was hype, but you can't even compare it to what there is today," he said. "It was pretty calm. I think we had 30,000 who attended or something like that. We've still got the first Super Bowl ticket, and it was \$12.50."

Stover said he got plenty of action, playing on special teams and joining E.J. Holub, Sherrill Headrick and Bobby Bell as a fourth linebacker when Kansas City employed a 4-4 look.

The underdogs hung in for a half and trailed 14-10, but the Packers scored 21 unanswered points after halftime.

Stover parted company with Kansas City before the Chiefs beat the Vikings in Super Bowl IV, but arrowhead-logo floor-mats in his pickup truck are evidence of once a Chief, always a Chief.

Stover said he attended training camp with the Chiefs after Super Bowl I, but Stram had a CFL coaching buddy who was in need of a linebacker. Stram released Stover and pointed him to Canada.

"I ended up going up there for a year, and I'll be damned if we didn't win the Grey Cup in December of '67," Stover said.

Stover went out on top and retired to a "real" job in Lafayette, La., where he has been ever since.

Two halls of fame, a Super Bowl trip, two AFL titles and a Grey Cup? That's a nice resume for someone who allegedly wasn't good enough.

After military school, Stover said he sought out then-University of Tulsa coach Bobby Dobbs to inquire about playing for the Golden Hurricane. Dobbs shot him down.

"He told me I would never make it as a big-time football player," Stover said. "It hacked me off."

Stover said he will never forget that moment as long as he lives. It motivated him to a career that shouldn't be forgotten. — *Jimmie Tramel* (Printed with permission from *Tulsa World*)

¡LOS ALUMNOS DE OMA VAN AL SUR!

The annual mini-reunion in South Padre, co-hosted by OMA alumnus Jim Knight and Bud and Margaret Inhofe, made October 2010 a fiesta to remember.



Jim ('67) and Pat Elder, Tulsa, Oklahoma



Bill Reichard ('53), Broken Arrow, Oklahoma



Jim Knight ('67) and Karen Moore, South Padre Island, Texas



Reunion hosts Bud ('50) and Margaret Inhofe



Clark ('61) and Terry Webb, Seguin, Texas



Jennifer and Billie Williams ('69), Noble, Oklahoma



Terry and Ted Wright (OMA '52 & Rogers University in '98), Kerrville, Texas

LEW WARD NAMED TO OKLAHOMA HALL OF FAME

Lew Ward, a 1950 Oklahoma Military Academy alumnus, recently was inducted into the 83rd class of the Oklahoma Heritage Association Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

Dr. Bill Banowsky, former president of the University of Oklahoma, presented the award.

Following are Dr. Banowsky's comments at the award ceremony.

"Lew Ward was born in Oklahoma City. His father was a driller, pusher, and later a drilling superintendent—drilling was in Lew's blood from the start. Once big enough, he spent his summers working as a roustabout and a roughneck.

"He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in petroleum engineering from the University of Oklahoma before serving with the United States army in Okinawa during the Korean War. As a first lieutenant, he worked as a pipeline engineer. Following his tour, he returned home and took a job in Tulsa with Delhi-Taylor Oil Corporation, a Dallas-based company.

"When he returned home he also made another important decision, frankly his best decision yet—he married Myra Gungoll. Lew and Myra had met while both were attending OU. They have been married 55 years and are blessed with a wonderful family. Their daughter Casidy and her husband own a northern California vineyard, and their son Bill lives in Colorado with his family. Bill serves as president and CEO of Ward Petroleum.

"The Wards returned to Enid in 1956 where Lew formed Ward-Gungoll Oil Investments with his father-in-law. In 1963 he founded I. O. Ward oil operations; today we know it as

Ward Petroleum Corporation. Ward Petroleum operates predominantly in the Arkoma and Anadarko basins, and Lew is chairman of the board. Other companies formed by Lew include Ward Drilling Company, Rambler Well Service, Geronimo Trucking, and Caprock Supply.

"Lew serves well his community of Enid, the state of Oklahoma, and his nation. He is past president of the Enid Rotary Club, the American Business Club, and the Enid Chamber of Commerce. He serves on the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Nature Conservancy and serves on the National Petroleum Council and the Board of Visitors of OU's College of Engineering, and is a founder and board member of Sarkeys Energy Center.

"He has served as past chairman of the Independent Petroleum Association of America and past president of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association. He served on the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was active on the U.S. Olympic Committee to raise funds in Oklahoma.

"Lew has established chairs in biomedical research at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, reservoir characterization at OU, and petroleum engineering at Oklahoma State University. He led the \$9.8-million campaign to expand Enid's Cherokee Strip Museum.

"Lew Ward is deserving of our state's highest honor—he is a model for how to live, and he is a model for how to give."

ROLL CALL: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

1960s

Thomas "Tom" E. Davis (1968), Aberdeen, Wash., an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Tribal Elder, was recently awarded an Associate's Degree in Applied Science in Human Services from the Bishop Center, Grays Harbor College, graduating with honors. Davis is 61 years old and states, "Never too old!" He is planning to pursue his work as a counselor and advocate working with victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.



Thomas Davis at graduation ceremonies with Grays Harbor Seventh Day Adventist Church Head Deaconess, The Honorable Carol Daitey; Professor Brenda Rolf-Maloney; and Mary Glenn with State of Washington Senator Patty Murray's office.

C. J. Masters (1969) just retired as a Lt. Colonel with 37 years of military service. His last tour was to Iraq, and he believes he is possibly one of the last OMA cadets to serve a tour in a war zone. He is now living in Claremore, Okla., and plans to attend the June 2011 Reunion.

Michael Neil Ray (1969), Lansing, Kan., recently renewed connections with the OMA Alumni Association. After OMA, he attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated with a BS in Economics from the Univer-

sity of Houston, an MA in National security Studies from California State University, San Bernardino, Air War and Naval War College graduate. He is working on his PhD from the University of Oklahoma. He spent 14 years with the 75th Maneuver Area Command as a 2nd Lt. Major, Houston, Texas. Career moves include work with Shell Oil, the Internal Revenue Service, and the National training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif. He went to Germany in 1990 to the Combat Maneuver Training Center (CMTC) at Hohenfels, Ger-

LT. COL. RAMSEY NAMED TO OKLAHOMA MILITARY HALL OF FAME



B.J. McWherter, a Philippine American; Lt. Col. Edwin Ramsey; Brig. Gen. Dana Batey; and Mike Gonzales, a member of the Oklahoma Military Heritage Foundation, hold the certificate of Ramsey's induction. Mrs. McWherter thanked Ramsey for his service in the Philippines. Batey, of Oklahoma City, was inducted into the Hall of Fame along with Ramsey. Gonzales was master of ceremonies at the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame banquet at Oklahoma Christian University in Edmond on Nov. 11, Veterans Day.

Lt. Col. Edwin Ramsey, a 1937 Oklahoma Military Academy graduate credited with leading the last Horse Cavalry charge in the U.S. Army, was inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame on Nov. 11, Veterans Day, during a banquet at Oklahoma Christian University.

Ramsey, who lives in California, led the last Horse Cavalry charge on Jan. 16, 1942, against Japanese forces that had

invaded Bataan. When Bataan fell, Ramsey escaped into the jungles and formed a guerilla force in Central Luzon in the Philippines. He led the fight for freedom for three years until the Philippines were liberated.

Mrs. B.J. McWherter, a Philippine American, took part in honoring Ramsey.

"I'm a Philippine American. On behalf of President (Benigno S.) Aquino and former President Fidel Ramos, I am pleased to assist in honoring and recognizing Lt. Col. Edwin Ramsey as a new inductee into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame.

"His honor is well deserved. Lt. Col. Ramsey is widely known in the Philippines as a true American hero. Through his tenacity, skills, and many sacrifices during World War II, many lives were saved and freedom was restored because of his service," McWherter said.

Ramsey then spoke briefly: "I think almost everything that needs to be said has been said, and I will make short comments. I would like to thank Gen. (Doug) Dollar and Maj. Bob Seals for having nominated me for this honor, and special thanks to my family and friends who came to share with me this memorable event on Veterans Day.

"Let's pause and remember today our veterans and men and women of our armed forces who are still fighting to preserve our freedoms. Thank you and may God Bless the USA."

many for 10 years. He moved to Grafenwoer, Germany, and worked as action officer at Directorate of Simulations for three years. He was the Assistant Chief of Staff and Commander of the 412th Engineer Command (Forward) in Germany, retiring as Colonel in 2000. He returned to the USA in 2003, as instructor in Leadership Department at Command & General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan. He is now with Northrop Grumman as an Intelligence Analyst training commanders and staffs worldwide with the Battle Command Training Program (BCTP). He is

married, with two children and one grandson.

1970s LAST SIX-YEAR ATTENDEE IDENTIFIED

Robert F. Cooper (1971), Major, United States Army Retired, Columbia, S.C., writes: "I am the last six-year student at OMA. Graduated high school in 1971, the ROTC department stayed until 1973 when I finished ... went to Northeast Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah, Okla. I graduated in 1975 with a BS in Math. I had

an education delay from the Army and entered active service in 1976 and retired in 1993 as a Major. I am from Claremore ...

I am currently working for the United States Postal Service."

NAMES ADDED TO PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS LIST

Since the initial printing of the "Purple Heart Tribute" list in the Summer 2010 *Guidon* edition, seven more cadets have been confirmed recipients of this distinguished service award. They are:

Eugene B. Fitch ('40), WWII
Larry Burton ('63), Vietnam

Charles C. Kegelman ('34), WWII

Col. Benjamin F. Boyd ('43), Korea (deceased)

Fred R. Reinauer ('43), WWII
William A. Burke ('41), WWII

LaVerne William Collier ('65), Vietnam

TAPS

★ **ABREGO, William Kent, Sr.** (1964), Bristol, Pa., formerly of Tulsa, Okla.; passed away Oct. 11, 2010. He graduated with honors from OMA with an associate degree, and earned his bachelor degree in chemistry from Northeastern College in Tahlequah, Okla. His working career included chemical sales and hotel development. His father, Guillermo Abrego, was a World War II hero, awarded the Purple Heart Medal of Honor.

★ **BRADSHAW, David C.** (1958), Paducah, Ky.; passed away Sept. 4, 2010. He was a proud veteran serving two Army tours in Vietnam, retiring after 20 years. He served as the Assistant Chief of Police and Deputy Sheriff in Apache, Okla., and as an EMT. He worked with youth programs and as a Veterans Advocate and Service Officer through the D.A.V. in Paducah.

★ **ELLINGTON, James W. "Jimmy"** (1968), Flemington, New Jersey; passed away Nov. 17, 2010. He attended OMA and Morristown Prep before graduating from Somerville High School in 1971. He was a maintenance manager for COSTCO in Bridgewater and for Sweep-A-Lot in Flemington.

★ **FERGUSON, Mark Del** (1962), Columbus, Miss.; passed away Aug. 30, 2010. He was a Captain in the U.S. Army. "Ferg," as he was known at OMA, was an outstanding cadet, lettering in track and serving on the New Cadet Detail, Judges Bench, Honor Committee, and Saber Society.

★ **GARDNER, Fred L.** (1952), Gilford, N.H.; passed away Nov. 3, 2010. Following OMA, he earned his business degree from the University of Missouri, served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, and worked 40 years with Rockwell International. He retired as director of quality assurance with the Rocketdyne Liquid Rocket Engine Division. He was a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and member of the Abou Ben Adhem Shrine.

★ **GEE, Kenneth W.** (1952), Ponca City, Okla.; passed away Oct. 19, 2010. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He earned his engineering degree at Central State University while serving as a police officer in Oklahoma City. Kenneth retired from ConocoPhillips in 1994.

★ **HUDDLESTON, Creed Taylor** (1943), Edmond, Okla.; passed away Sept. 10, 2010. After OMA, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps following Pearl Harbor and was a pilot and bombing instructor during World War II. He earned his bachelor degree in geology as well as a law degree. He worked 17 years for Shell Oil, moving around the country, before returning to the Oklahoma City area to establish an independent oil and gas practice. He was recently honored by the Oklahoma Bar Association for 60 years of service.

★ **LOOMIS, Court Jr. "Bud"** (1940), Enid, Okla.; passed away July 22, 2010. While at OMA, he earned the distinction of being the "youngest airplane pilot in the United States" at the age of 16. After OMA, he attended the University of Oklahoma where he entered the Army Air Corps as a B-25 instructor pilot during his senior year when World War II broke out. Following the war, he returned to Enid and went into the furniture business with his father. He was a distinguished businessman and community supporter for 71 years.

★ **TYLER, Gordon "Burt"** (1953), Tulsa, Okla.; passed away Aug. 4, 2010. Following OMA, he attended Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va., where he received his bachelor degree in economics. He joined his father at the Gordon Tyler Company, an insurance agency founded by his father in 1931. The business was in Tulsa for more than 70 years and in recent years merged into Thomason Tyler and Lynch Insurance agency. Burt was an outstanding member of the Tulsa Kiwanis Club and holds the record for bringing in 75 new members. He also served on the Board of the Miss Oklahoma Pageant. During his time as Vice President of the board, he raised Oklahoma from 50th place to 1st place nationally for scholarships awarded.

★ **WEAR, Charles W.** (1938), Jefferson City, Mo.; passed away Nov. 13, 2010. After OMA, he attended Drury College and then enlisted in the Army. After World War II, he began a career in sales, finance, and banking. He was proud of his Cherokee heritage and the fact that his grandfather, The Reverend Stephan Foreman led one of the five wagon trains at the removal of the Cherokees to Oklahoma in 1838 and was the first Superintendent of Education west of the Mississippi River.



OMA REUNION • JUNE 3-4, 2011

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Name of spouse (or other guest(s) attending) _____

CLASS INFORMATION

Indicate year graduated or last semester attended _____ ☐ High School ☐ Junior College

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

FRIDAY

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC & REGISTRATION

Heritage Hills Golf Course • 9 a.m., Shotgun Start

☐ 18 holes - \$60 (includes lunch) ☐ Golf lunch only \$10

☐ Please arrange my foursome for me.

☐ My team members will be: _____

Number of Persons

Total \$ Amount

WOMEN'S LUNCH WITH RSU FIRST LADY PEGGY RICE

11:30 a.m. • President's Residence, RSU Campus

☐ \$15 per person

PING PONG/POOL TOURNAMENT

3-5 p.m. • RSU Centennial Center

☐ Ping Pong - \$10 per person ☐ Pool - \$10 per person

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI REUNION OPENING RECEPTION

5:30-7:30 p.m. • RSU Centennial Center

☐ \$25 per person

SATURDAY

EVENTS ON COLLEGE HILL

Registration begins at 8 a.m. • OMA Museum in Meyer Hall

Morning and afternoon activities at no charge: Morning Roll Call, KIA Memorial Dedication, and OMA Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

☐ \$30 per person • Annual OMA Alumni Luncheon

11:30 a.m., RSU Centennial Center (Reserve early, seating limited)

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI RECEPTION, DINNER, AND DANCE

6 p.m. • RSU Centennial Center

☐ \$35 per person

Total Amount Enclosed

Make checks payable to: RSUF/OMA Alumni Association and mail to: Rogers State University, 1701 W. Will Rogers Blvd., Claremore, OK 74017.

Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Account number _____ Expiration date _____

Signature _____

Refund policy: Reunion 2011 registration refunds will be made only if the RSU Development Office is notified no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, May 27, 2011. For additional information, please call (918) 343-7773.



Office of Development
1701 West Will Rogers Boulevard
Claremore, OK 74017-3252

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REACH HIGHER: MAKING THE COLLEGE DREAM A REALITY AT ANY AGE



Many alumni have benefitted from post-OMA educational opportunities on The Hill. Bob Corlett, a 1962 OMA junior college graduate, earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Rogers State University in 2005. Ted Wright, a 1952 OMA student, earned an associate degree from Rogers University in 1998.

"It's never too late to learn" is an axiom often cited to describe the Rogers State University Adult Degree Completion Program. The program, directed at adults who started college but didn't finish, is known as the "Reach Higher" program.

Those participating in the program can complete RSU's Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Organizational Leadership. Classes are offered online in a flexible, accelerated format.

"This is a second chance for adults to finish their degree while keeping their normal routines and maintaining regular work hours, yet still having time for their families," said Dr. Bruce Garrison, Dean of the RSU School of Business and Technology.

Classes toward the degree are offered in five convenient, eight-week "mini-semesters." Students may enroll in the program prior to each mini-semester. The next eight-week semester for the program begins on Monday, March 8.

Students are required to attend only two classes on campus, including the Foundations of Organizational Leadership and Personal Development, and Capstone Project, to complete the program. The remainder of the degree program may be completed online.

The degree is part of the Reach Higher program, a statewide initiative to increase the number of state residents who have earned bachelor's degrees, coordinated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

For more information on the Reach Higher Adult Degree Completion Program at RSU, or to enroll in the program, call (918) 343-7520.