RAMSEY LEGACY PRESERVED IN GOLD PROGRAM



Rogers State University students owe a debt of gratitude to the legacy of the late Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey '37 for helping establish an endowment supporting the Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) program recently established by RSU and the Oklahoma National Guard.

Widely known for his role as a guerilla leader behind enemy lines in the Japanese-held Philippines during World War II, Ramsey was hailed as a hero by generations of Filipinos.

A 1994 inductee into the OMA Alumni Hall of Fame, Ramsey became the leader of a force of 40,000 guerilla fighters intent on regaining the Philippines from Japanese rule. Among his exploits, he led the last mounted U.S. Army Horse Cavalry charge in Bataan on January 16, 1942, for which he received the Silver Star. His medals and awards also included the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and the Distinguished Service Cross pinned on him by Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Ramsey also received a number of military awards from the

Philippine government, including the Legion of Honor (Degree of Commander) and the Cross of Valor.

Ramsey told his story in the 1990 book, *Lieutenant Ramsey's War*, co-authored by Stephen J. Rivele. The book was excerpted in *Reader's Digest* and remains in print to this day, as part of the series *Memories of War*, published by Potomac Books, Inc.

Following the war, Ramsey completed his law degree at the University of Oklahoma Law School, was Far East Representative of Hughes Aircraft Co. in Japan, and later was president of Ralph M. Parsons Electronics Co., as well as his own companies in Taiwan and later the Philippines. This is where he met and married his second wife, Raquel, in 1979. He also lobbied Congress to fulfill its wartime promise of benefits for Filipinos who fought

for the U.S. in WWII, and he was made a Green Beret, among many other honors.
Ramsey passed away of March 7, 2013 and was interri

Ramsey
passed away on
March 7, 2013
and was interred
with full military
honors at
Arlington
National
Cemetery on
June 28, 2013.



Ed and Raqui Ramsey

Since his passing, Dr. Raquel Ramsey has been instrumental in working with the OMA Alumni Association in establishing an endowment at RSU that honors Ed Ramsey's remarkable career and legacy.

Thanks to the Ramsey family's support, future generations of RSU students will benefit from the unique preparation that only a military-based education can provide. They will follow in the footsteps of Colonel Ramsey and other OMA graduates.

GOLD UNEARTHED ON RSU CAMPUS

The OMA Alumni Association is pleased to announce to its alumni that the Oklahoma National Guard will soon establish a **Guard Officer Leadership Development** (GOLD) Program at Rogers State University. The program is expected to be in place this fall.

The GOLD program is patterned after the regular Army's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). The program was founded with the belief that the National Guard's officer corps would benefit from a college education, and these programs were designed to supplement a college

curriculum. For many months, the OMA Alumni Association worked with Dr. Ken Hicks, department head of RSU's Military History and Political Science Department, and RSU Administration to help bring this program to Claremore. OMA Alumni Executive Director Dr. Danette Boyle feels so proud to see the culmination of this extraordinary effort. "We are so excited about the GOLD program," she says. "For the first time in many years, we will soon have young men in uniform on 'The Hill'."